

Israeli troops kill 'guerrilla' on border

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli troops at the northern border with Jordan on Tuesday shot dead a man who earlier fired on an Israeli army patrol, wounding one soldier, Israeli security sources said. "They killed the terrorist near a bridge at the border after searches," one security source said. The guerrilla had shot and wounded an Israeli soldier before he was killed, the sources said. Israel radio said troops initiated searches between the border fence and the Jordan River after shots were fired from Jordan at an Israeli army patrol, wounding one soldier in the leg. It said the Israeli troops shot dead a man dressed in civilian clothes and armed with a Kalashnikov assault rifle. An Israeli army spokeswoman confirmed a soldier had been wounded and a "terrorist" was killed. She said a joint investigation into the incident would be conducted by Jordanian and Israeli officers.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab newspaper published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة المنشورة من قبل المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

Central Bank governor Nabulsi resigns

AMMAN (R) — Central Bank Governor Mohammad Said Al Nabulsi has tendered his resignation effective Jan. 1, 1996, officials said Tuesday. Mr. Nabulsi, whose present five-year term began in 1991, has held the post since 1973 with only a break in 1985-1989 when he headed the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. Mr. Nabulsi has submitted resignations several times in recent years but they were not accepted, officials said. They said it was not clear what he has been thinking of or why he wished to quit, although he has been criticised by parliamentarians seeking to tighten control on the Central Bank. Bankers credited Mr. Nabulsi with a tight monetary policy that has preserved the dinar's stability and controlled inflationary pressures, returning the banking system to its feet after an economic crisis in 1989. "Nabulsi built Jordan's foreign reserves from zero in 1989 with reforms that have overhauled banking inspection and raised their efficiency and encouraged mergers to create a stronger banking sector," one banker said.

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Bosnian rivals seal historic peace deal

Accord calls for Muslim-Croat federation and separate Serb entity, envisages united Sarajevo and effective central government

DAYTON, Ohio (Agencies) — Bosnian rivals finally agreed to a U.S. sponsored peace plan on Tuesday in dramatic down-to-the-wire negotiations that were haunted by the threat of failure up to the last moment. President Bill Clinton said the plan, which was scheduled to be initiated at 3 p.m. EST (2000 GMT), envisages a united Bosnian government with a freely elected president and parliament, the return of refugees to their homes and a ban on charged war criminals from participating in public office.

Mr. Clinton said the "people of Bosnia finally have a chance to turn from the horrors of war to the promise of peace. The presidents of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia have made a historic and heroic choice."

"They have heeded the will of their people," he said. The plan calls for Bosnia to be preserved as a single state divided into two republics, a Muslim-Croat federation and separate Serb entity, with an almost equal distribution of land between the two.

Two senior Bosnian government delegation members told Reuters that the deal did not come easily after yet another U.S. deadline for the talks to end expired at 11.30 p.m. on Monday (0430 GMT Tuesday).

At one point Bosnian Foreign Minister Muhamed Sacirbey said the talks had collapsed. But his claims

could not be confirmed at the time by the two other delegations and the U.S. mediators.

The dramatic breakthrough came after the Americans laid down the final draft on the table regarding major territorial issues which Serbia and Croatia agreed to sign leaving only the Bosnian delegation reluctant to go along with the deal.

"The parties were due to respond to the draft by 11:30 p.m. and there were still some problems when the deadline passed and that is probably why Sacirbey called every journalist in the world," the source said.

But pressure built up over the night on the Bosnians to sign because both Croatia and Serbia had agreed.

"A couple members of the U.S. delegation worked through the night and this morning Secretary of State Warren Christopher met with presidents Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia and Franjo Tudjman of Croatia."

"They were able to resolve the remaining differences," the official said.

In his speech announcing the deal, the president appealed to the American people and members of Congress to support the deployment of an estimated 20,000 U.S. troops to implement peace in the region.

"The parties have chosen peace. Americans must choose peace as well," he said.

Mr. Clinton was facing opposition by the

Republican-dominated Congress to send Americans into what is seen as Balkan quagmire.

The Bosnian government officials told Reuters that the "Serbs had agreed to settle for quality of territory rather than stick to the 49 per cent of territory allotted to them."

The officials said the issue of the Port of Brcko, providing the government with an access to the River Sava in northern Bosnia, was settled. The Serbs will lease the port facilities for the next 99 years, the officials said.

The parliament, instead of one house as initially proposed, will have two houses, on Croat insistence, they said.

Sarajevo will remain united but the Serbs and the government have traded off various parts of the city, the officials said, without elaborating.

In New York, diplomats said the U.S. and Germany asked the U.N. Secretary General to adopt within 24 hours two resolutions progressively lifting sanctions against Bosnia and Serbia, diplomats said.

One resolution would be aimed at lifting economic sanctions imposed on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), and the other would ease the arms embargo on Bosnia, the diplomats said.

Diplomats said the German and U.S. ambassadors

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CELEBRATIONS — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday arrived at the site of celebrations held by Al Hadid and Balqa tribes on the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's birthday. Addressing the ceremony, Sheikh Barjas Al Hadid (right) pledged his tribe's allegiance to the Hashemite leadership of King Hussein and lauded the Kingdom's achievements under the King's rule. Mr. Hadid praised the democratic path that King Hussein has charted and called for

Prime minister pledges to rectify professional associations' situation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker said Tuesday that the government "will do all it can to rectify the situation of the professional associations and direct them to their basic objectives for which they were created."

He was speaking at a meeting with a group of engineers at his office in the Fourth Circle. The engineers called on the prime minister to present him with a memorandum defining their position and the result of a meeting they held Monday to emphasise their determination to promote the engineering profession and steer it away from politics.

The prime minister expressed to the group the government's appreciation of their stand and their meeting which aimed at putting right the work of the Jordanian Engineers Association (JEA) and directing its efforts towards safeguarding the profession and its members.

The professional associations have been at loggerheads with the government mainly over peace with Israel but also over domestic issues.

The writers, doctors, lawyers and engineers associations have since Jordan signed peace with Israel threatened their members of dismissal if they normalised relations with Israel. The law gives them the authority to do so. A number of members have so far been dismissed or had their membership frozen.

His Majesty King Hussein has called twice in the past two weeks on the "silent majority" to come forward

and express its support for peace.

The King also called on the associations to "leave politics for the politicians." He instructed the government to "ask the Higher Council for the Interpretation of the Constitution" to rule on the legality of the authority practised by the associations.

Around 200 engineers, proclaiming to represent the "silent majority," gathered at the Professional Associations Complex Sunday where they discussed issues pertaining to the association and later staged a march in a show of protest against what they called "the minority's abuse of power."

The engineers said in a statement at Monday's meeting that they sought the enactment of appropriate legislation in order to guarantee the rights of the association members and to rectify the status of the professional associations.

At the meeting with the prime minister engineer Ali Obaidat said: "We as engineers look forward to ensuring that the JEA will remain a source of power for building Jordan following in the steps of the Kingdom's leadership in spirit and in profession and for the sake of serving this country and its good people. We pledge to keep this as our main priority and to steer away from all political trends and to restrict our work to the task for which the association has been created."

Engineer Khaled Saeed also said in a speech before the prime minister: "We as

Jordanian engineers realise the sensitivity and seriousness of the present circumstances through which our association and other associations are passing and also realise that the JEA leadership has gone astray in managing the association's affairs and has deviated from the professional path and shifted towards the political path with the result that political groups are now vying against one another in a drive to force the engineers to adopt political stands. These political stands in fact reflect the association leadership's malice and rancour towards this country and its leadership and its achievements."

He said that the silent majority among the engineers have raised their voices high at Monday's meeting in response to the King's call and are now telling the "deviationists": enough of your political venom which you call patriotic stands and no more venting of your sinister malice."

The JEA which boasts a 12,000 membership is headed by independent Islamist Leith Shubeitat and avowed opponents of peace with Israel.

In his speech to senior police and intelligence officers on Nov. 10, the King said: "Concerning our unions and the sheikhs of our associations: Do they act constitutionally?"

The government maintains that professional associations should limit their work to the affairs of their professions

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Syria urges Israel to give up on early warning stations

DAMASCUS (AFP) — Syria on Tuesday called for the new government of Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres to give up on its demand for early-warning stations on the Golan Heights, for the sake of a peace deal.

"Tangible progress could be achieved if the new Israeli government turned the corner to peace by agreeing to Syria's just and legitimate demands for a total Golan withdrawal," state radio said.

The Syrian-Israeli negotiations came to a stop because of the hesitations of the former Israeli government, which demanded early-warning stations on the Golan, which would amount to consecrating the occupation," it said.

Mr. Peres was set to announce his new cabinet team later on Tuesday, following the assassination of his predecessor Yitzhak Rabin at a Tel Aviv peace

rally on Nov. 4.

The Jerusalem Post newspaper said the prime minister would next month spell out for U.S. President Bill Clinton the price Israel was prepared to pay for peace with Syria.

Peace talks ground to halt in June when the two sides failed to agree on security arrangements to accompany an Israeli withdrawal on the strategic Golan Heights, which Israel seized from Syria in 1967.

Israel wants to set up early-warning stations on the Golan while Syria proposes the use of satellites.

Meanwhile, president Hafez Assad told his Lebanese counterpart Elias Hrawi Tuesday he was keen to help Lebanon liberate its southern part from Israeli occupation.

Mr. Assad's remarks were contained in a cable he sent

to Mr. Hrawi on the occasion of Lebanon's national day.

"I am pleased to praise the development of the brotherly cooperation and coordination between Syria and Lebanon..." Mr. Assad's cable said.

"I also affirm the continuation of Syria's keen interest to extend every help possible to its sisterly country of Lebanon to liberate south Lebanon and the western Bekaa from Israeli occupation," the cable said.

Israel occupies a so-called security zone in south Lebanon where it has some 35,000 troops, is linked with Lebanon with a treaty calling for political, economic and military cooperation.

Syria, the main foreign power broker in Lebanon where it has some 35,000 troops, is linked with Lebanon with a treaty calling for political, economic and military cooperation.

Sudan: Rebels offensive repulsed

KHARTOUM (AFP) — Sudan announced that it has repulsed an offensive by southern rebels backed by Ugandan troops, saying the situation in the south was "excellent."

"The offensive backed by Uganda and foreign powers has been driven back," the military chief of staff General Ibrahim Suleiman told state television late Monday.

The situation in the south "is excellent and our forces are courageously carrying out their duties," Gen. Suleiman said.

The television showed Foreign Minister Ali Osman Taha in military uniform touring the southern capital of Juba. Southern rebels had earlier announced they were fast advancing towards the town.

Sudan accuses Uganda of sending troops across the border to back the rebels.

but Kampala denies the charges.

Mr. Taha was shown addressing government soldiers, saying their "victory gives us an impetus in the foreign ministry to achieve success in our foreign policy of realising peace and stability with our neighbours and friends."

"The big powers do not want peace in Sudan, but we are determined to carry on with our peace and development programme and with extending a peaceful hand to our neighbours," Mr. Taha said.

On Monday, Sudanese President Omar Al Bashir announced at the opening session of parliament that the government had "neutralised the rebellion on the battlefield."

Sudan has accused Egypt and other neighbours of "plotting" against it in the rebel attack.

Rights group urges ban on arms sales to Turkey

ISTANBUL (Agencies) — A U.S.-based human rights group called here Tuesday for a suspension of weapons sales to Turkey, accusing Ankara of violating human rights and war conventions in its campaign to crush the separatist Kurdish rebellion.

Officials of the Human Rights Watch Arms Project told reporters at a press conference during which they presented a report on Turkey, that their aim was to "monitor and prevent arms transfers to governments or organisations that commit gross violations of internationally recognised human rights and the rules of war."

Their report, entitled "Weapons transfers and violations of the laws of war in Turkey," states that NATO weapons, especially those coming from the United States, are used by the Turkish government in its campaign against separatists in the mainly Kurdish eastern and southeast part of the country.

James Ron, a member of the organisation, said that fighter-bombers and helicopter sold to Turkey by the United States had been used by Ankara in that region and constituted the heaviest violations of the rules of war.

He said his group had identified four instances in which civilians were killed during government air raids. He said in one case, 24 civilians died on March 26, 1994, in the southeast village of Sirnak when two F-16 jets dropped four bombs on civilian homes.

Mr. Ron said that investigators had identified 29 cases

of human rights and war conduct violations between 1992 and April 1995 in which American-made weapons were used by the Turkish army. The report is based on testimony from 100 witnesses including three former Turkish soldiers who took part in army raids against the Kurds.

Mr. Ron noted that U.S. law forbids the sale of American weapons to countries that use them to violate human rights and called on the White House to stop supplying arms to Ankara.

Syria does not support PKK — Khaddam

Meanwhile Syria has said it does not support the Kurdish guerrillas locked in an 11-year independence war against Turkey. Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam was quoted as saying.

Mr. Khaddam, in a magazine interview that coincided with Turkish accusations that Damascus was harbouring anti-Turkey guerrillas, said Syria was in fact trying to curb cross-border guerrilla infiltrations into its northern neighbour.

"Syria does not give any support to the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK). In fact, there are dozens of PKK members in Syrian jails who have broken Syrian laws and regulations," Mr. Khaddam told the London-based Arabic weekly magazine Al Wasat.

Mr. Khaddam's interview, published in this week's

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Kashmir group claims New Delhi bomb blast

NEW DELHI (AFP) — A Kashmiri militant group, the Jammu Kashmir Islamic Front, late Tuesday claimed responsibility for a blast in the Indian capital's main commercial district, Connaught Place, which left at least six people injured, police said.

The blast, which occurred around 7.30 p.m. (1400 GMT), seriously damaged about 20 surrounding stores and restaurants. Police said one of the injured was in a critical condition.

A caller claiming to be a spokesman from the front, which was previously known as the Ikhwai Al Muslemeen (Muslim Brotherhood), told newspaper offices and news agencies in Srinagar that "we did this to avenge the killings of Kashmiri militants by Indian troops."

"Our intention was not to kill the common man," he told them in Hindi.

The Press Trust of India said about 30 people were injured in the explosion — taking into account those in-

jured who were not admitted to hospital.

Bystanders said only six were injured, one critically.

One witness said the bomb could have been placed inside a container outside the Delhi Darbar restaurant, which was badly damaged in the blast.

"I saw a spark from a metal box placed nearby an electric pole and in seconds the whole place was shattered," a witness said. The thunderous blast broke window panes as far as a kilometre away.

"Ten passenger cars, which were parked nearby, were destroyed," another witness said.

A car park attendant said he had seen a "metal box container lying near the electric pole since evening." He said he had informed police about the "suspicious looking object" around 7 p.m. (1330 GMT).

In September two low-intensity blasts in New Delhi left 22 people injured.

No one claimed responsibility for those blasts.

Peres announces cabinet, retains defence portfolio

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — On his way to forming a new government, Prime Minister Shimon Peres signed coalition agreements with two smaller parties and named the members of his new cabinet Tuesday.

Mr. Peres said he moved quickly in order to assure a smooth transition after the Nov. 4 assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin which has left the nation reeling.

"Our plan was to establish a government at the earliest opportunity in order not to leave a crisis situation in the country," Mr. Peres said after signing the coalition agreements.

Tuesday evening, Mr. Peres named the members of his new cabinet, which was similar to the outgoing one with Mr. Peres, like Mr. Rabin, holding the defence portfolio in addition to the top job.

In a major change, Interior Minister Ehud Barak, a popular and articulate former army chief, was named foreign minister.

"We will stand together as one to advance Israel, advance peace, strengthen security and go forward with our heads raised," Mr. Peres told Labour Party members gathered in Tel Aviv.

Mr. Peres said he would present his new government to parliament on Wednesday for what was expected to be easy approval. Several opposition parties have said they would abstain in the vote in order to demonstrate unity after Mr. Rabin's killing.

Mr. Peres formed the same coalition that was in power at the time of Rabin's death. It consists of Mr. Peres' Labour Party, the dovish Meretz bloc and the small Yehud faction, a breakaway of the right-wing opposition Tzomet Party. Labour controls 44 seats in

the 120-member parliament. Meretz has 12 and Yehud has two, for a total of 58. Five Arab legislators support the coalition from outside, guaranteeing a 63-57 vote on most issues.

Mr. Peres has been trying to negotiate an understanding with the religious Shas Party which doesn't oppose his peace policies outright, but won't join the coalition.

In a nod to Shas and other religious factions, Mr. Peres signed a letter attached to the coalition agreements that said the government would observe the status quo on religious matters.

Meretz, which has campaigned against what it calls religious coercion in Israel, was given a veto right on religious legislation.

Following is the list of the new cabinet:

Prime Minister and Defence Minister — Shimon Peres (Labour, new)

Foreign Minister — Ehud Barak (Labour, new)

Interior Minister — Haim Ramon (Labour, new)

Minister at the prime minister's office — Yossi Beilin (Labour, new post)

Minister for Internal Security — Moshe Shahal (Labour, new post)

Finance Minister — Avraham Shohat (Labour, unchanged)

Justice Minister — David Litzai (Labour, unchanged)

Trade and Industry Minister — Micha Harish (Labour, unchanged)

Health Minister — Ephraim Sneh (Labour, unchanged)

Housing and Construction Minister — Binyamin Ben Eliezer (Labour, unchanged)

Tourism Minister — Uzi Baram (Labour, unchanged)

Labour and Social Affairs Minister — Ora Namir (Labour, unchanged)

Agriculture Minister — Yaakov Tzur (Labour, un-

changed)

Transport Minister — Israel Kessar (Labour, unchanged)

Religious Affairs Minister — Shimon Shetreet (Labour, unchanged)

Education, Culture and Sports Minister — Amnon Rubinstein (Meretz, unchanged)

Communications, Science and Arts Minister — Shulamit Aloni (Meretz, unchanged)

Environment Minister — Yossi Sarid (Meretz, unchanged)

Integration Minister — Yair Tsaaban (Meretz, unchanged)

Energy Minister — Gonen Segev (Yehud, unchanged)

Minister without portfolio — Yehuda Amital (independent, new)

The new line-up was achieved in record time, 17 days after the assassination of Mr. Rabin.

Meretz had threatened just before the announcement to withdraw from the coalition, but it then agreed to take part.

Political analysts said Mr. Barak would have only a limited role in the peace negotiations, while Mr. Beilin, 47, who was appointed as minister without portfolio will coordinate the peace process.

The charismatic head of the powerful Histadrut trade union body, Haim Ramon, was named as interior minister.

But an embarrassed Mr. Peres initially forgot Mr. Ramon, 45, and had folded up his list. Blushing he finally named Mr. Ramon to applause from the central committee.

Mr. Peres said: "I will respect all the promises made by former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. It is a moral duty for me."

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هذه احذ الفصل

U.N. team disarming Iraq in need of funds

KUWAIT CITY (Agencies) — The U.N. team disarming Iraq needs \$30 million to fulfill its mission for another year or it will run out of funds early in 1996, its chairman said Tuesday as he sought support from Gulf states.

The United Nations Special Commission needs "up to \$30 million a year" to pay the salaries of its 150 staff members and maintain equipment, UNSCOM Chairman Rolf Ekeus told AFP.

If Gulf Arab states and other U.N. members do not offer financial support, the team risks running out of funds in "early 1996," Mr. Ekeus said before leaving Kuwait for Qatar.

"If we do not get the funds, we will have to close our work and that will be a threat to the security in the region," Mr. Ekeus said earlier at a press conference on Monday.

UNSCOM, which sends experts to Iraq to oversee the dismantling of its weapons of mass destruction, solved a cash crisis last year when frozen Iraqi assets were unfrozen.

It now must rely on contributions from U.N. members, he said. "Iraq should pay for all the costs related to our work... but it appears that Iraq has no available funds because of the oil embargo."

Contributors might be reimbursed once the embargo is lifted, he added.

Mr. Ekeus said his tour would take him this week to Qatar, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Oman, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia to seek "political support and helpfully also the necessary material support" for his mission.

"It is quite natural that they also assist," especially since large Western countries have provided much of the financial support," Mr. Ekeus said. "Both Kuwait and Saudi Arabia have been supportive," he added.

UNSCOM also relies on U.N. members for "in-kind" support such as equipment, services and technical personnel, he said.

There is no longer unanimous political support in the Gulf for maintaining economic sanctions until Iraq satisfies disarmament and other U.N. resolutions. The UAE is standing by its call last month for an immediate end to sanctions.

Mr. Ekeus said Tuesday he would return to Iraq next week to prepare his December report on Baghdad's disarmament for the U.N. Security Council, which will decide whether to lift the embargo imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990.

But he did not sound optimistic about that happening. "Now, they say all the weapons were destroyed secretly as they were produced secretly," Mr. Ekeus said, referring to Iraqi officials. "However, we have no proof that these weapons have been destroyed, our task is to clarify that."

Iraq has admitted to having developed an extensive chemical, biological and nuclear weapons programme and the missiles to carry them on. But U.N. officials said there is no proof that all have been destroyed.

"Iraq appears now to be suspected of producing a number of rocket engines, copies of Russian made ones, and we are not certain that these missiles have been destroyed," he said.

"In that case, Iraq is still theoretically keeping a handful of such missiles," Mr. Ekeus said. "Iraq again declared they had been destroyed, but we are not convinced, so we will continue verifying."

Under U.N. resolutions ending the 1991 Gulf war to free Kuwait, Iraq must destroy its nuclear, biological, chemical and longer-range ballistic weapons and hand over all details about them before the oil embargo can be lifted.

"Iraq using dhow to evade sanctions"

Meanwhile, a U.S. Navy spokesman said Iraq is suspected of using traditional

wooden trading boats in the Gulf to evade sanctions.

Commander T. McCreary said a U.N. interception force of ships from Belgium, the United States, Italy and New Zealand diverted 11 dhows in the past week suspected of exporting dates from Iraq.

"These are dhows, not ships. It's a new tactic we are seeing in an attempt to violate U.N. sanctions by sending smaller vessels and more of them," Mr. McCreary told Reuters.

"We believe they loaded their cargoes in Khor Al Zubair in Iraq and were exporting the foodstuffs in violation of U.N. sanctions," he said by telephone from the Gulf headquarters.

The multinational force has been checking shipping in the Gulf to enforce the U.N. trade embargo imposed on Iraq since 1990.

Iraq has complained to the United Nations that U.S.-flagged and British patrols violated its territorial waters.

Mr. McCreary said the force has diverted 26 vessels since October 1994, including the eleven for contraband cargo.

Each of the eleven dhows held between 100 to 400 tonnes of dates. "At \$500 a tonne the cargoes are worth more than oil in terms of price per tonne," said Mr. McCreary, who added the prices were supplied to him by shipping sources.

Some of the other 15 diverted vessels have held diesel, which Mr. McCreary said Iraq exported at \$150-\$200 per tonne.

"Earlier in shipping we saw larger ships, and we pretty much shut that down," he said. "Now what we are seeing is a lot of small vessels like dhows with smaller cargoes."

He said U.N. teams which boarded the dhows, four of them flying United Arab Emirates flags and seven Indian, found false paperwork and some claimed to have loaded their cargoes in Iran.



COALITION GOVERNMENT: Acting Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres hands over his pen to Minister of Environment Yossi Sarid for him to sign the coalition agreement with left-wing parties to form his new government Tuesday (AFP photo)

Kuwait special court to try former minister on graft

KUWAIT (R) — A court on Tuesday sent a former Kuwaiti oil minister charged with making illegal profits for trial by a special court for cases involving ministers, but ordered four other accused tried by an ordinary criminal court.

Criminal court judge Ahmad Mahfouz referred the case against Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah, the most prominent member of the ruling Sabah family to stand trial on criminal charges, to the special court.

He added his court would try four other defendants accused of corruption in their work for Kuwait Oil Tanker Company (KOTC) and set an opening session for the four Dec. 26.

Mr. Mahfouz set no date for proceedings against Sheikh Ali, the architect of Kuwait's oil industry and the only former minister to have been prosecuted for offences related to his duties.

Prosecutors accuse Sheikh Ali and four former oil executives of making illegal

profits from operations of state-owned KOTC.

The four — former KOTC Chairman Abdul Fattah Al Badr, a Kuwaiti, former deputy chairman for financial affairs Hassan Qabazard, also a Kuwaiti, and former KOTC officials Timothy Stafford, a Briton, and Nassim Mohsen, a Jordanian — face further charges of embezzlement and forging documents.

Sheikh Ali has denied the charges. Mr. Qabazard, the only other of the accused to turn up for trial, has denied embezzlement.

But Mr. Qabazard has told the trial he acquired money from KOTC operations on the instructions from his then superior, Mr. Badr. Mr. Qabazard is free on bail in Kuwait.

The other three defendants are living abroad. None has returned to Kuwait to face trial or commented on the charges.

Lawyers said it was not immediately clear what procedures would govern Sheikh

Ali's trial, but they added it appeared his case would be heard by a special court as stipulated by a 1995 amendment to a 1990 law regulating ministers' trials.

Opposition MPs have argued the strict procedures required under the 1990 law would make it hard to obtain convictions. The 1995 amendment set new court rules that lawyers say improves the chance of obtaining convictions. Sheikh Ali's lawyers have argued the 1990 rules should apply.

KOTC lawyer Nasser Shaalan said the company did not mind what court tried Sheikh Ali as long as the money KOTC had lost was returned. Mr. Shaalan said the case involved financial losses of about \$121 million and unquantified "non-financial" losses.

"We have no problem where he goes. We trust the law here in Kuwait," he told reporters. "Our main concern is to obtain the amounts embezzled."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Death toll in Saudi bomb rises to 7

RIYADH (AP) — The death toll from a bomb which destroyed a U.S.-run military building rose to seven Tuesday with the death of an Indian man, the Indian embassy said. The man, whose name was given only as Balakrishnan, was the second Indian to die from the Nov. 13 bomb explosion. Mr. Balakrishnan worked as a cook with the Arabian Food Supplies Co. that caters to the American military training facility. Five Americans died in the blast and the U.S. embassy said 11 wounded Americans remained in hospital, including one on the critical list.

Pollard granted Israeli citizenship

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Reversing himself, Israel's interior minister decided Tuesday to grant Israeli citizenship to Jonathan Pollard who is serving a life prison term in the United States for spying for Israel. Mr. Pollard, who is Jewish, was arrested in 1985. He has sought to win Israeli citizenship in hopes of improving his chances at a January parole hearing. Mr. Pollard made the request for citizenship earlier this year, but was turned down by the interior ministry which said that Israel normally does not grant citizenship to Jews until they immigrate. The case went to the supreme court which ruled Oct. 25 that the government had 30 days to explain its decision. Instead of appearing before the high court, Interior Minister Ehud Barak decided Tuesday to grant Mr. Pollard citizenship. Mr. Barak said in a statement that he made the decision after consulting with ministry legal advisers. Mr. Barak also said that "Israel will continue, as it has done in the past, to work on behalf of Jonathan Pollard."

Palestinians arrest alleged killers

GAZA CITY (AFP) — Palestinian police have arrested the suspected killers of two leaders of the militant Islamic Jihad, a spokesman said here. "The intelligence services have arrested in the past days the murderers of Hani Abed and Mahmud al Khawaja," Colonel Mohammad Al Masri said in a television interview late Monday, adding they would soon appear in court. He did not say how many had been arrested. Mr. Abed was killed in a November 1994 when his car blew up in a boobytrap in Khan Younis in the south of the self-rule Gaza Strip, and Mahmud al Khawaja was shot dead in July in the Shati refugee camp near Gaza City by masked men. The Islamic Jihad, which has carried out several bloody anti-Israeli attacks, blamed both murders on Palestinians working for the Israeli secret services. The group accused Israeli agents of killing its leader Fathi Shaqaqi in Malta last month.

Earthquakes shake western Algeria

ALGIERS (R) — People ran from their homes into the streets when an earthquake shook the western Algerian town of SidiBelAbbes on Tuesday morning, state radio said. The quake rocked buildings in SidiBelAbbes and a big explosion was heard afterwards, the radio said. The Algerian news agency APS said the quake measured four on the Richter scale and that it caused no damage. It gave no further details on the explosion. A moderate earthquake also rocked the western city of Oran. The quake measured four on the Richter scale, APS said, after saying earlier the intensity was 3.4. The quake, centred in downtown Oran, caused no casualties or damage. "This weak earthquake did not cause any substantial losses," Algerian radio said.

Men banned from fashion shows

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) — Kuwait's Islamic Affairs Ministry on Tuesday banned men from women's fashion shows and ordered models to cover themselves from their navels to their knees. The decree was issued after Kuwait's first fashion designer Nejad Budai, 23, last month staged a show where models wore miniskirts and seethrough blouses before a crowd that included several men. "These shows must be held in areas reserved exclusively for women," according to the decree (or fatwa) from the ministry, which was carried by the official KUNA news agency. "The models' clothes must hide the parts of the body between the navel and the knees, which are not allowed to be seen by other women. These clothes must be those which the Sharia (Islamic law) allows (women) to wear." The fatwa also allows women to work as models provided that photographs of their shows are not published in magazines or broadcast on television "because of their seductive effect."

Strong earthquake hits southern Iran

NICOSIA (R) — An earthquake powerful enough to cause heavy damage in populated areas hit Iran's southwest Fars province Tuesday but there were no immediate reports of casualties, the Iranian news agency IRNA said. It said the "relatively strong" earthquake, which measured 4.8 on the Richter scale, shook Mamasani and Kazeroun cities at 0550 local (0220 GMT) and "frightened the residents of the two cities." The epicentre was recorded at 60 kilometres west of Shiraz, capital of the province. IRNA said a team of experts was sent to the region for damage assessment.

UAE, India hold naval exercise

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — India and the United Arab Emirates staged an unprecedented joint naval exercise in the Gulf waters Tuesday. Rear Admiral John de Silva, the flag officer commanding the Indian naval group, said three Indian warships participated in the daylong games with two vessels from the United Arab Emirates. The Indian ships, supported by a submarine which did not participate in the manoeuvres, were on a goodwill mission to build closer ties with the UAE, Adm. De Silva told the Associated Press.

'Bahraini activists trained by Hezbollah in Lebanon'

MANAMA (AFP) — Dozens of young Shiite Muslim activists from Bahrain are travelling every month to Lebanon for training in Iranian-backed Hizbollah camps, sources close to the opposition here said.

Official Bahraini newspapers earlier this year accused Hizbollah of being behind a wave of anti-government riots that left 12 people dead from December 1994 to April this year.

Although they could not confirm it, some sources close to the opposition said Hizbollah might have taught the activists how to make fire bombs with timing devices, which have begun to be used here only in recent months. Diplomats added that the fire bombs were more sophisticated weapons than those used previously.

The activists who trained with Hizbollah were able to return to Bahrain without raising suspicion because they avoided getting their passports stamped when they crossed between Syria and Lebanon, the sources said. Several Bahraini opposi-

tion members are based in Damascus, including Abdullah Al Ghorafi, a Shiite cleric exiled since 1988. Dozens of activists have been travelling to Syria through Saudi Arabia, they said.

In January, Bahrain denounced Lebanon's "inaction" toward the "hostile activities" of Bahraini opponents who took up exile in Beirut after they were expelled in 1981.

Hizbollah, linked closely to Iran, established itself in Lebanon when Iran's revolutionary guards arrived in the country in 1982. Bahrain has several times issued veiled accusations of Iranian influence in the riots.

Bahrain's defence minister, Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Ahmad Al Khalifa, said on Nov. 12 that "Iran is the main source of danger" for the Gulf, although he did not implicate Tehran directly in the unrest.

Manama has never handed over the "concrete proof" of foreign involvement in the riots that it claims to have obtained.

"The authorities feel that Iran wants to destabilise Bahrain, a potential centre of unrest because most of its people are Shiite, but has carefully avoided naming their powerful neighbour," an Arab diplomat said.

Shiite opposition leaders insist there is no link between foreign countries and the protests which are against unemployment and the suspension of parliament in Bahrain.

"During interrogation, the authorities never had the courage to accuse us of having intelligence links with Tehran," according to a Shiite opposition leader who was released from prison in September.

Since the Iranian revolution in 1979, several Bahraini opposition groups set up office in Iran where young Bahraini students still travel to for theological studies.

The Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain was set up in Tehran in 1976. Its leaders have been in prison or exile since a "plot" was exposed in December 1981.

One arrested after Cyprus blast

NICOSIA (R) — Police in Cyprus arrested a man after a bomb ripped through an apartment block housing foreign cabaret artists. Killing one man, in the coastal town of Larnaca.

The blast on Monday night followed a series of attacks which police believe are part of a war between gangs for control of the entertainment and vice business in the mediterranean island.

Police said the bomb exploded before midnight, killing a 26-year-old Cypriot. The owner of the apartment, a friend of the victim, was arrested five hours later.

Police spokesman Savvas Antoniadis said the man's body was thrown out of the apartment from the impact of the explosion to the road below. A state pathologist said the victim was blown to pieces.

Ancient Syrian city discovered

LOS ANGELES (AFP) — A team of California anthropologists have uncovered the ancient city of Urkesh in Syria, a political and religious hub 4,000 years ago and the home of a mythical god.

Urkesh was found after nearly eight years of excavating the modern Syrian city of Tell Mozan by Giorgio Buccellati of the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA) and Marilyn Kelly-Buccellati of California State University.

"The identification of Urkesh is analogous to knowing that Rome is in central Italy and then finding Rome," said Mr. Buccellati, professor of the ancient Near East and history at UCLA.

"Urkesh now has geographical as well as mythical location," he said. Urkesh was the cradle of the Hurrian civilisation and believed to be the home of their god named Kumarbi.

Urkesh is located 640 kilometres northeast of Damascus and was the centre of the Hurrian civilisation around 2200-2300 B.C., according to radiocarbon dated objects. "The husband-wife team of

archaeologists, established that Urkesh was a vibrant city at least three centuries earlier than scholars believed, and a more important city than had been realised.

Prior to these findings, scholars knew of Urkesh kings from centuries later, but did not know where Urkesh was, or how important it was, the team said.

They presented their findings Monday in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania at the annual meeting of the American School of Oriental Research. The Hurrians lived in a part of the desert across what is now southeast Turkey and northeast Syria and spread toward the centre of what is modern-day Syria and west into Turkey.

The two archaeologists had been scouring the area since 1983 looking for Urkesh, finding shards of pottery and parts of buildings but nothing that named the site as Urkesh.

Then they found what appeared to be a warehouse where 600 artifacts were strewn across a floor, including stone cylinders with art and words carved into the sides.

JORDAN TELEVISION

PROGRAMME TWO

- 14:00 Inspector Gadget
- 14:30 Ghost Writer
- 15:00 Tomorrow's World
- 15:30 Amazing Stories
- 16:00 I Love Lucy
- 16:30 Tarzan
- 17:00 Fractales
- 17:30 Jeux
- 19:00 News in French
- 19:15 Magazine — Sports Et Musique
- 19:30 News Headlines
- 19:35 Anything for a Laugh
- 20:00 Amazing Races
- 20:25 The Bold and the Beautiful
- 21:10 Star Trek
- 21:40 News in English
- 22:25 Prison
- 22:45 Law and Order
- 23:30 The Silk Road

PRAYER TIMES

- 04:44 Fajr
- 05:45 Sunrise
- 11:21 Dhuhr
- 14:12 Asr
- 16:38 Maghreb
- 17:59 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church
Switzerland, Tel. 010740
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terresanta Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 623541
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772661
St. Epiphane Church Tel. 777751
Assam International Church Tel. 625226
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 625242
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 845457
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654922
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691
The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
A cold air mass will affect the Kingdom today, so rainfall is expected with temperatures dropping significantly and winds becoming westerly moderate to active. In Aqaba, skies will be partly cloudy, with southerly active, and sea rough.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Min./Max. temp.

Amman 5/12
Aqaba 11/20
Deserts 3/14
Jordan Valley 9/17

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 18 Aqaba 27 Humidity readings: Amman 75 per cent. Aqaba 35 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Nidal Al As'ad 751672
Dr. Youssef Al Faqih 790104
Dr. Mazen Nabil 830435
Dr. Abdul Rahim Mustafa 744685
Firas pharmacy 641912
Ferdows pharmacy 773356
Al Asma pharmacy 637055
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 646945
Shumail pharmacy 637660
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672
Najib pharmacy 847632
IRBID:
Dr. Ali Al Omari 273032
Al Ouds pharmacy (—)

ZARQA:

Dr. Akram Haddad 985550
Khalifah pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 617101
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 836390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 661176
Complaints 697467
Amman Municipality 787111
Complaints 661101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power Company 636381

RJ Flight Information

Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. 64281/6

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre R13813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. 64281/6
Alkheir Maternity, J. Amn. 64281/6
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Mabous J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsan 670701
Shamsan Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muassir Hospital 66727/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26
Army, Shamsan 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674155
The Arab Centre for Heart and Special Surgery 665199
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)986732
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)986732
IBBID:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272725
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital (02)347100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)532000. S. where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
08:00 Aqaba (RJ)
08:30 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:45 London (RJ)
10:15 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
10:35 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
10:50 Colombo (RJ)
11:00 Beirut (RJ)
11:15 Riyadh, Dhahran (RJ)
11:30 Cairo (RJ)
11:45 New Delhi (RJ)
12:10 Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)
12:45 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
13:00 Toronto, Montreal (RJ)
13:15 Madrid, Geneva (RJ)
13:30 Brussels, Paris (RJ)
13:45 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
14:00 Manchester, Aqaba (RJ)
14:15 London, Aqaba (add) (RJ)
14:30 Rome, Istanbul (RJ)
14:45 London, Aqaba (add) (RJ)
15:00 Beirut (RJ)
15:15 Cairo (RJ)
15:30 Aqaba (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:50 Cairo (MS)
10:30 Jeddah (SV)
12:15 Karachi, Abu Dhabi (PK)
14:20 Algiers (AH)
16:25 Cyprus (CY)
18:30 Samara (IY)
20:45 Beirut (OH)
22:45 Athens (OA)
23:15 Amsterdam (KL)
23:59 London (BA)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
08:30 Aqaba (RJ)
09:45 Istanbul, Rome (RJ)
10:15 Berlin, London (RJ)
11:25 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
11:35 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:50 Colombo (RJ)
12:00 Beirut (RJ)
12:15 Riyadh, Dhahran (RJ)
12:30 Cairo (RJ)
12:45 New Delhi (RJ)
13:10 Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)
13:45 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
14:00 Toronto, Montreal (RJ)
14:15 Madrid, Geneva (RJ)
14:30 Brussels, Paris (RJ)
14:45 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
15:00 Manchester, Aqaba (RJ)
15:15 London, Aqaba (add) (RJ)
15:30 Rome, Istanbul (RJ)
15:45 London, Aqaba (add) (RJ)
16:00 Beirut (RJ)
16:15 Cairo (RJ)
16:30 Aqaba (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:50 Amsterdam (KL)
03:00 Athens (OA)

HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman 8:00 a.m. every Monday
Arr. Damascus 5:00 a.m. every Monday
Dep. Damascus 7:30 a.m. every Sunday
Arr. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

MARKET PRICES

Upplower price in J.S. per kg.
Apple 700/500
Banana 680
Banana (Mukammal) 620
Cabbage 130/80
Carrot 250/180
Cauliflower 180/120
Cucumber (large) 200/120
Cucumber (small) 280/300
Eggplant 170/120
Garlic 750/500
Grape 650/500
Grape Fruit 300/150
Lemon 250/180
Marrow (large) 200/120
Marrow (small) 200/120
Olives (green) 700/500
On

Princess Basma praises former members of JNCW, sees brighter future ahead

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Tuesday voiced her appreciation and gratitude to the former members of the Jordanian National Committee for Women (JNCW) for their efforts during the establishment period of the committee in 1992 and the committee's preparation of the national strategy for women.



Princess Basma stressed that the five years separating Jordan from the 21st century require a great deal of work and effort if major achievements and the implementation of the national strategy are to be accomplished. She added that the strategy provides for a solid base for a more advanced and more progressive future.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, following the announcement of the new setup of the JNCW, the Princess said that the former committee has accomplished major achievements in the three years following the committee's establishment.

The re-formation of the committee came at the end of the mandate of the former committee and for the purpose of enlarging its membership so that it includes all the government departments and non-governmental organisations in addition to a number of specialists in areas that have direct contact with Jordanian women's needs in the next stage.

The Princess said that women's committees in the governorates which constitute the executive arm for the implementation of the national strategy have played an important role in the latest municipal elections which resulted in the election of 10 women to local councils for the first time in Jordan's history.

Princess Basma said that many specialists involved in these committees' work, including the legal committee, which was created by the JNCW, conducted a survey of Jordanian legislation and presented proposals for the required amendments to laws with a view to creating greater chances for women to be involved and incorporated in the development process in all its aspects.

The Princess, who is JNCW president, praised the awareness of Jordanian women and their potential which she said enables them to look with confidence and hope to the future.

She said Jordanian women are true to their human role first and to their role as Jordanian citizens second, and that they recognise they have rights and duties towards themselves, their families and their nation.

Prime minister: Jordan supports regional agricultural integration

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Monday said Jordan supported the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD) for its efforts in developing agriculture in Arab countries and said Jordan would like to see all Arab League organisations stepping up their activities and promoting their services to Arab countries.

The AOAD's executive board opened a three-day meeting in Amman Monday to discuss food security for the Arab world, the implementation of pan-Arab agricultural projects and cooperation among regional and international organisations in agriculture-related affairs.

After the meeting with Sharif Zeid, Majed Jasbi, the Bahraini minister of agriculture, said board members briefed him on the organisation's activities, programmes and research work and its plans to help the Arab world achieve food security and promote agricultural production.

The AOAD board, which started sessions at the Hotel Jordan InterContinental, is reviewing reports by the AOAD director general about the past year's activities and plans for the next three years.

Members on the AOAD executive board represent Jordan, Bahrain, Algeria, Morocco, Sudan, the United Arab Emirates and Djibouti.

Orthodox Council appeals for support of rights

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Central Orthodox Council which represents the Arab Orthodox community in Jordan and Palestine Tuesday issued an appeal to all Orthodox communities in the world to offer support for the community's efforts in affirming its rights in the Holy Land.

The appeal was also directed towards gaining support for the community's cultural and social centres.

The appeal, issued by Dr. Raouf Abu Jaber, chairman of the Orthodox Society and president of the Central Orthodox Council, urged various Orthodox communities to help Palestinian and Jordanian orthodox communities protect holy places and church property in the occupied Arab land.

Dr. Abu Jaber said the Orthodox Society, created in 1992, with full backing from the Jordanian government and the Palestine National Authority, is seeking to protect the property and real estate of the Orthodox church in Palestine and to improve social, cultural and spiritual services for the Arab orthodox community.

In earlier statements the Central Orthodox Council accused the Greek Orthodox patriarch of Jerusalem of leasing and selling church property to Israelis and of neglecting the affairs of the Orthodox community and their cultural centres and schools in Jordan and Palestine which fall under his jurisdiction.

Symposium on medical malpractice opens today

AMMAN (J.T.) — A two-day symposium on medical malpractice will today open at the University of Jordan with the participation of 400 doctors and medical specialists from public and private sector institutions in Jordan, according to Dr. Mahmud Abu Khalaf, dean of the university's Faculty of Medicine and director of Jordan University Hospital.

Dr. Abu Khalaf told the Jordan Times that the symposium, which will be held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Ra'ad Ben Zeid, is aimed at clarifying citizens' rights in medical malpractice.

The symposium will also focus attention on the duties and the role of the judicial authorities concerning medical malpractice, according to Dr. Abu Khalaf.

Al Bilad journalists charged with insulting Lower House of Parliament released on bail

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Two journalists of Al Bilad weekly were released on a JD 1,000 bond Tuesday afternoon after being detained again Monday, this time on charges of insulting the Lower House of Parliament, according to the publisher Nayef Tawarah.

Al Bilad Editor Khaled Kasasbeh and cartoonist Usama Hajjaj were jailed again because Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Sa'ad Hayel Srour filed a complaint last month accusing the weekly of publishing cartoons that slurred the House in October.

"Parliament members were upset at what was published in the newspaper, and since there is a Press and Publications Law, we decided to file a complaint," Mr. Srour told the Jordan Times Monday.

The cartoon, which was published in mid-October, shows two doors next to each other. On one is written in Arabic "Dawara Istithna'iah" (extraordinary session) and on the other "Dawaret Miah" (toilet) and two people asking each other which door they will enter.

"Our cartoon was not targeting the Jordanian Lower House of Parliament, and the cartoon did not indicate the Jordanian Parliament. What we meant was other parliaments," Mr. Kasasbeh told the Jordan Times Tuesday evening shortly after he was set free on bail.

WHAT'S GOING ON

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| <p>FILM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * "Remains of the Day" at the British Council at 7.00 p.m. <p>LECTURES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * "The Conflict between King Faisal and the British over the policy of Iraq" (in Arabic) by Dr. Mohammad Al Zubaidi at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation. * "Histoires du Cinema Français" by Noel Simsolo at the French Cultural Centre at 6.00 p.m. (to be followed by a 36-minute film on the history of cinema). * "Architectural Heritage and Sustainable Tourism Development including the Case Study of Taibet Zamman Tourist Village" (in English) by Architect Lean Fakhori at the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature, Jubeiha, at 6.00 p.m. <p>CONCERTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Musical performance by Bishr Hijazi at Darat Al Funun, Jabal Weibdeh at 7.00 p.m. * Musical performance by concert pianist Jean Pierre Fournier at the Royal Cultural Centre. | <p>EXHIBITIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Annual fall exhibition "Khawater" at the Jordan River Designs, (Tel. 613081/2) until Dec. 1. * "Pakistani Women of Substance in paintings and photographs" at the National Gallery of Fine Arts, Jebel Weibdeh. * Exhibition of stamps about the Royal Hashemite family (1916-1995) at the Royal Cultural Centre. * U.N. photo exhibition on the occasion of the U.N.'s 50th anniversary at Abdul Hameed Shoman Gallery, Jabal Amman through to Nov. 23. * Works by Jordanian and Iraqi artists at Orfali Art Gallery. * Works by Dodi Taba'a entitled "Variations Graphiques 93-95" at the French Cultural Centre. * Sculptures & paintings by Iraqi Artist Ismail Fattah, and a retrospective exhibition of sculptures & drawings by Mona Saudi at Darat Al Funun, Jabal Weibdeh. * Metal works by Ammar Khammash at Liwan, off Wadi Saqra Street. Also displaying all kinds of handicrafts. (Tel. 699141). |
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SCRUPLES

MEN'S SHOW

You are Cordially invited to attend a
GRAND FASHION SHOW GALA
to view our Fall / Winter 1995 / 1996 collection

FORTE GRAND HOTEL
MONDAY NOV 27 1995 - FROM 7.00 PM TO 10.00 PM

Tickets JD 100

Walesa aides allege vote fraud, challenge poll result

WARSAW (R) — Defeated President Lech Walesa's campaign staff alleged fraud by victorious ex-Communist Aleksander Kwasniewski's followers and said Tuesday they would submit a legal challenge to the election result.

"We have a basis for submitting to the Supreme Court a motion for the elections to be annulled," Mr. Walesa's campaign spokesman Boguslaw Kowalski told Reuters. He said that in some places members of local Electoral Commissions supporting Mr. Kwasniewski placed fraudulent vote cards in the ballot boxes.

Just about 600,000 votes separated the two candidates in Sunday's election which had a record turnout. "We have evidence that voting cards were thrown in, evidence that one of the members of an Electoral Commission in Warsaw added a whole sheaf — he was caught red-handed," Mr. Kowalski added.

Mr. Walesa's staff also protested in a statement that Mr. Kwasniewski contested the vote while claiming to have a higher education, when his old university had said he never graduated, and

had failed to declare to parliament some shares held by his wife.

"It is not right that the president of the republic was chosen by voting cards added to the urns, rather than by the choices of voters, and that he should have had more than one accusation of telling untruths hanging over him — and that is what Aleksander Kwasniewski did."

Mr. Walesa has bitterly conceded defeat at the hands of former Communists he once removed from power, but has vowed to fight back in the next parliamentary elections.

"I still have lots of energy and... the tango will start for real now," the former Solidarity leader told a news conference after official returns confirmed he had lost to ex-Communist Aleksander Kwasniewski.

Mr. Walesa said he fully respected the democratic verdict, but he accused Mr. Kwasniewski of playing foul in blaming hardships caused by decades of communism on Solidarity-led reforms.

"Unemployment, the collapse of state farms are bills that communism should

pay, but they made us pick up the tab."

Mr. Walesa called on his supporters from fragmented right-wing and leftist parties as well as on his election committees to unite into a bloc and prepare for 1997 parliamentary elections.

The pugnacious former shipyard electrician firmly rejected Mr. Kwasniewski's extended hand and an offer of cooperation.

"We have nothing to say to each other and I will not talk to him," Mr. Walesa said, adding that he would not attend the official hand-over of power to his successor.

Mr. Kwasniewski, who according to surveys got the biggest support from those dissatisfied with five years of reforms, the unemployed and less-educated, rushed to assure Mr. Walesa's frustrated supporters he was not their enemy.

"I will not use my position to strengthen just one side of the Polish electorate. I feel responsible for the interests of all of us," he said.

Mr. Kwasniewski, who in the campaign portrayed Mr. Walesa as a political troublemaker, called on Mr.

Walesa to help him unite Poles in a joint effort to secure a better future.

Mr. Kwasniewski's victory in Sunday's poll is a remarkable prize for six years of hard work, transforming the image of the former ruling Communist Party into that of a modern Social-Democratic group. The party already controls the government and parliament.

The 52-year-old outgoing president made clear he would not stand after Mr. Kwasniewski ended his five-year term.

"I have been president and do not think I will be running again," he said. "But I will be standing by and promoting a new president."

Mr. Walesa did not give names but earlier this year he told Reuters he saw Andrzej Olechowski, a well-respected former finance and foreign minister, as presidential material.

Mr. Olechowski founded a Conservative-Liberal Party earlier this year, hoping to fill the void on the right ahead of the next parliamentary elections and his group is likely to be one of the pillars of Mr. Walesa's bloc.



Doku Zavgayev

4 killed in Chechenya as election day looms

MOSCOW (R) — At least four people were killed in fighting between Russian troops and separatist rebels in Chechenya in the past 24 hours, less than a month ahead of elections, Russian and Chechen sources said Tuesday.

Both sides reported clashes as tension remained high in the Transcaucasian region ahead of the Dec. 17 polls for the Russian parliament and regional administration.

Rebel commanders made clear they intended to disrupt the voting and Russian Interior Minister Anatoly Kulikov said his troops were "preparing for the worst."

But Mr. Kulikov was sure the elections in Chechenya would go ahead. "I don't think the situation will get more complicated ahead of the elections," he told the Ekho Moskvy radio station.

However, the Izvestia newspaper said in a report from rebel strongholds in southern Chechenya that local opposition to the polls was strong.

"If we are men, we should not hold these elections," it quoted rebel Commander-in-Chief Aslan Maskhadov as saying.

"We will not allow any elections," said Field Commander Shirvani Basayev, the brother of Shamil Basayev who became a Chechen hero after leading a daring hostage seizure in the southern Russian town of Budennovsk in June.

Shamil Basayev told Izvestia. "As for my own response, I am not saying anything... We will continue our discussion on the ruins of the Kremlin."

Russian media reports have suggested Shamil Basayev could be in Moscow. But TASS, quoting an informed Interior Ministry source, said this was not true and the Izvestia report indicated he was in Chechenya.

Chechen separatist

spokesman Movladi Udugov said Mr. Basayev operated independently to a certain extent. "My view is that you can expect anything from him."

In the latest fighting, ITAR-TASS news agency said two Russian soldiers had been killed and 10 wounded since Monday in attacks by "illegal armed formations" on road blocks and patrols.

Mr. Udugov said Russian troops had stepped up tank and artillery attacks. "Chechen volunteers and settlements came under fire 70 times," Mr. Udugov told Reuters by telephone.

"Two people were killed and 11 wounded," he said, adding that the heaviest firing was in the Achkhoy-Martan and Vedeno regions.

TASS said Russian positions were fired on 18 times in the same period, with 12 of the attacks in the capital Grozny.

Russia sent troops into Chechenya almost a year ago to crush the breakaway government of Dzhokhar Dudayev, who is now in hiding but still leading resistance.

Thousands of people have been killed and the casualty toll has been creeping up daily despite a loose ceasefire agreement reached in June.

Mr. Udugov, information minister under Mr. Dudayev, doubted any involvement by separatists in a remote-controlled bomb attack Monday against Doku Zavgayev, head of the Moscow-installed Chechen government.

He quoted Mr. Dudayev's Interior Minister Kazbek Makhashev as saying the attack, in which Mr. Zavgayev was slightly wounded, might have resulted from strife between pro-Moscow Chechen factions.

The apparent assassination attempt was the third against senior officials in the region in the past two months.

1st rebel fighters move into Angola holding camp

LUANDA (R) — UNITA fighters have moved into a United Nations-supervised holding area in central Angola, one of the first real signs that the country's enemies are meeting the terms of a peace accord signed a year ago.

U.N. envoy Alioune Blondin Beye, observers and members of a joint peace commission witnessed the movement of the fighters into the Vila Nova assembly area in the central highlands province of Huambo Monday, state radio reported Tuesday.

More fighters are due to move into the assembly area and into another quartering camp in the province, at Loundumbali, until between 4,000 and 5,000 were in each.

A total of 15 camps have been established for UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola).

In another development aimed at underpinning the fragile peace, U.N. peacekeepers inspected assembly areas being set up for the government's special paramilitary police under terms of the peace accords that halted the nearly two decades-long civil war.

The Angolan News Agency, Angop, reported that 10 quartering camps had been earmarked for the

paramilitaries and the Angolan government had given permission for quartering to begin.

Angop quoted UNITA's representative on the Joint Peace Commission, Isaias Samakuva, as saying that implementation of the Lusaka Accords was far behind schedule.

Mr. Samakuva said last week that UNITA would announce four nominees for posts in the unity government and the vice-presidency by Christmas, but added that this was too early.

"It will be at least seven months before the government of national unity happens, and we don't see how having a list of names can be useful," he said.

The posts have still to be decided. UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi has been conditionally offered one of two vice-presidencies.

Despite the accords, UNITA fighters and government soldiers and their leaders are deeply suspicious of each other and there have been dozens of violations of the ceasefire.

Mr. Samakuva told Angop up to 5,000 UNITA troops would be confined to barracks at Vila Nova out of an estimated 60,000 UNITA troops, many of whom are to be demobilised or incorporated into the unified armed forces.

Carter wins Burundi agreement for Cairo summit

BUJUMBURA (R) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter said Tuesday he had won agreement from Burundi on a draft agenda for a Cairo summit to tackle central Africa's twin crises of Rwandan refugees and ethnic violence.

"The visit to Burundi has been completely successful. The president, prime minister and others have approved a draft of the agenda for the conference in Cairo," Mr. Carter told an airport news conference.

He said Burundi's cabinet would approve the draft later Tuesday, paving the way for the five-nation summit to try to end ethnic violence in Burundi and arrange the return of refugees who fled Rwanda's civil war last year.

Leaders of Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi and Zaire will attend the summit in Cairo starting next Tuesday, Mr. Carter said. Abdul Azziz Hani, the interim U.N. special envoy to Burundi, told Reuters time was running out to solve the two problems.

Asked if the summit could lead to a breakthrough, he said: "I hope so. It's one of the last chances to find a solution."

Mr. Carter denied that failing to invite leaders of two million Hutu refugees, who fled Rwanda in fear of retaliation for last year's genocide in which an estimated one million Tutsis and moderate Hutus died, would lessen chances of success in Cairo.

"This is a meeting of government leaders. I will be meeting with leaders of the Hutu refugees in camps today," said Mr. Carter.

The former president with his wife Rosalynn then flew to eastern Zaire to visit Rwandan refugee camps.

Rwandan refugee leaders have said their attendance at Cairo is vital for it to have any chance of success.

Zaire has vowed to expel one million Rwandan refugees in its territory unless they return home voluntarily by Dec. 31.

Mr. Carter said the Cairo summit agenda would focus specifically on achieving a "rapid and peaceful return" of the two million Rwandan Hutu refugees in Zaire, Tanzania and Burundi.

He said the summit would also try to arrange the return of members of Burundi's Hutu majority and Tutsi minority displaced by two years of ethnic conflict, which has killed more than 100,000 people.

He said Tanzania, Uganda and Zaire would be urged to ensure an end to intimidation of refugees waiting to be repatriated.

"The borders will be more tightly secured to prevent cross border raids from outside Burundi and Rwanda," said Mr. Carter, adding more steps would be taken to stop the flow of weapons to militia groups.

On Burundi, he said the international community would try to secure a meeting to reconcile its political factions.

Violence in Burundi pits the Tutsi-dominated army against Hutu rebels, with civilians and refugees caught in the middle.

Mr. Carter said all nations would be urged to arrest suspects named by an international tribunal as guilty of genocide in Rwanda.

19th century bronzes stolen from Fontainebleau

PARIS (AP) — Thieves broke into the famed Fontainebleau Castle and made off with 13 precious bronzes, including pieces that once belonged to Napoleon Bonaparte. The newspaper Liberation quoted police sources as saying that last Thursday night's robbery took less than five minutes. Officials suspect experienced thieves who knew their way around the 17th century royal abode: 60 kilometres southeast of Paris. The missing 19th century pieces, including two vases, six clocks, two gloves and two "chariots," are worth about 2 million francs (\$400,000). Police sources were quoted as saying the objects d'art are numbered and inventoried, making them virtually impossible to sell at public auction.

British shops open doors to midnight Beatlemania

LONDON (R) — Beatlemania gripped Britain as fans of all ages flocked to record shops which opened specially at midnight to sell the first new album in 25 years by the world's most famous pop group. Daniel McGarrigle and Jennifer McHugh, both 19 and born years after the Beatles split up, queued up with about 300 people outside a London shop of the giant HMV chain to be among the first to buy the compact disc Beatles Anthology 1. Outside the shop there was a party atmosphere as fans sang along with buskers pounding out Beatles tunes. About 500 people queued outside an HMV shop in Liverpool, the Beatles' hometown.

Jason Donovan collapses again

SYDNEY (AFP) — Entertainer and ex-soap star Jason Donovan was rushed to hospital Tuesday afternoon after collapsing in a delirious state at Sydney's famous beachside suburb of Bondi. Television reports here said ambulance officers administered oxygen and stabilised Donovan shortly after the incident, which occurred just before 0200 GMT. He was taken to the nearby Prince of Wales Hospital but staff there said the former Neighbours star had not been admitted to the hospital. Donovan was reported to be recovering at his beachfront Bondi home Tuesday night. Earlier this year, Donovan collapsed at the Viper Room, a Los Angeles nightclub which was the scene of Hollywood actor River Phoenix's death from a fatal cocktail of drugs. Donovan had said fatigue and jetlag were the cause of his first collapse, but it was not known what led to the second health scare.

China puts 6 artificially-bred bears into wild

BEIJING (R) — China has released its first six black bears bred using artificial insemination into the wilds of the northeastern Changbai Mountains after providing them with survival training. Xinhua News Agency said Sunday. The cubs, whose parents are wild, began training at the age of two in how to gather food in the spring, exercise in the summer and hibernate in the winter, it said. Officials have attached electronic devices to the necks of the bears to trace their movement through a 12 to 18 square kilometre area, the news agency said. It did not give details. Experts from the Beijing Badaling Bear Park, Beijing University and the northeastern Dongfang Bear Park spent three million yuan (\$361,500) on three years of research and experiments to breed black bears that could survive on their own in nature reserves.

Little joy seen for Keating in Australia poll gain

CANBERRA (R) — Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating's personal popularity is recovering in opinion polls but analysts said Tuesday the conservative opposition lead still appeared too great for Labour to catch up before 1996 elections.

However, they said Mr. Keating's strong gain with voters could become a valuable campaign weapon against the Liberal-National Coalition which will be trying to end 13 years of Labour rule.

"If you have got a popular leader, you highlight your leadership," Australian Broadcasting Corp electoral analyst Antony Green told Reuters.

"If the (opposition) Liberal Party has got any sense, they won't campaign on leadership in this campaign."

While Labour continues to trail the coalition by about eight points in three main public opinion polls, Mr. Keating for the first time is more popular than opposition leader John Howard.

The polls show Mr. Keating leads Mr. Howard as preferred prime minister by between one and three percentage points.

But analysts say the coalition's lead is too great and Mr. Keating's too narrow for Labour to catch up significantly ahead of national elections which must be held by May 1996.

"If the parties were more closely matched, it would be significant," electoral analyst Malcolm MacKerras told Reuters.

"I don't see any evidence to suppose that Keating will win the election," he said.

Australian National

University researcher Clive Bean, a specialist on elections and public opinion, told Reuters Mr. Keating would need to widen his lead to 20 points before it would lead to a two to three point boost in Labour's support.

"The level of support for parties is related to the level of support for leaders, but only to a modest degree," he said.

"You will need to see a change of 20-odd per cent in order for that to make a change of two to three per cent in the vote."

"If there is something of a surge toward Mr. Keating... then some of those people could be expected to change their general view of the parties from a pro-coalition view to pro-Labour."

Although he expected a strong focus on the leaders during the election cam-

paign, Mr. Bean said Mr. Howard and Mr. Keating were not popular enough to base campaigning on leadership.

"Keating's historical rating with voters hasn't been all that great," he said. "John Howard does not have a terribly good image overall, either."

The coalition has maintained a strong opinion poll lead over Labour throughout this year.

Mr. MacKerras said he expected the coalition's opinion poll lead to translate into an election victory, with a majority of about 20 seats in parliament's 148-seat lower house.

Labour, which has ruled this nation of 18 million since March 1983, must hold an election by mid-May. Most parliamentarians and analysts expect the election in March.

California's immigration measure receives setback

LOS ANGELES (R) — A judge has struck down a key part of California's Proposition 187, the United States' strongest measure against illegal aliens and cast doubt on the remaining sections.

In a ruling hailed by opponents of the draconian measure as a victory and described by its proponents as an "outrage," U.S. District Judge Mariana Pfaelzer said it was unconstitutional for California to deny primary and secondary education to the children of illegal

immigrants.

She also struck down the so-called "squealer" provision, which would have required teachers and school authorities to inform the immigration and naturalisation service of their suspicions that children were the sons and daughters of illegal immigrants.

Judge Pfaelzer said illegal immigration fell under federal jurisdiction and noted: "The state (of California) is powerless to enact its own scheme to regulate immigration."

The judge did, however, rule California could deny higher education to illegal immigrants and their children.

Proposition 187, the so-called "save our state" measure approved by voters last November by an overwhelming majority of 59 per cent to 31 per cent, would also deny welfare benefits and all but emergency medical services to illegal aliens.

Judge Pfaelzer, in a 71-page ruling, also cast doubt on those provisions, saying:

"While it appears that the state can permissibly deny wholly state-funded benefits and services without impeding the objectives of federal law, it is unclear from the record whether any such purely state-funded programmes or health care facilities in fact exist."

She indicated in her ruling that where a programme was even partially funded by federal dollars, the state could not deny illegal immigrants and their children access to them.

Soviet plot sparked 1941 U.S.-Japan war — KGB man

TOKYO (R) — Moscow used a top collaborator in Washington to heighten war tensions between the United States and Japan, provoking the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbour that made the Americans join the war, a Japanese daily said Tuesday.

Vitaly G. Pavlov, 81, a senior Soviet spy who handled North America during World War II, told the Mainichi Shimbun in an interview that the key man in the plot was Harry White, special advisor to U.S. Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau.

Mr. Pavlov said Mr. White was a Soviet "collaborator" who had the trust of President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Secretary of State Cordell Hull. "He was not what the Americans later would call a Soviet agent, he was just a collaborator," he told Mainichi.

Historians said Mr. Pavlov's testimony provided missing facts about Soviet infiltration in Washington in World War II.

"We only knew that White was accused of being a

Soviet spy. Mr. Pavlov's testimony gives us the missing pieces and shows how elaborate Soviet activities loomed behind the U.S.-Japan row that led to Pearl Harbour," said Professor Makoto Tokibe of Kobe University.

Prompted by Moscow, Mr. White wrote a memorandum to Mr. Hull that formed the basis of a document called the "Hull note," which was regarded by Japan as an ultimatum and so led to the sneak attack on Pearl Harbour on Dec. 7, 1941. The U.S. went to war against Japan as a result of the attack.

In the Hull note, the United States demanded Tokyo withdraw troops from Indochina, China proper and northeastern China under Japan's puppet government Manchukuo, in exchange for removal of a U.S. oil embargo which was crippling Japan.

Japan occupied China's three northeastern provinces in 1931, started a full-scale war with China in 1937 and took over French Indochina after Germany defeated

France in June 1940.

The Hull note was handed to Japan's envoys on Nov. 26. Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo interpreted it as a virtual ultimatum because of Mr. Hull's surprisingly stiff and sweeping demands to abandon all of Japan's conquests since 1931.

Before the Hull note, the only U.S. demand to Japan was to withdraw from French Indochina. Five days after receiving the Hull note, Emperor Hirohito's War Council ordered Japan's aircraft carrier fleet to attack Pearl Harbour on Dec. 7.

Mr. Pavlov said the plot to stiffen Washington's stance against Japan, called "Operation Snow" after White's family name, came in an order from Soviet spy chief Beria in October 1940.

Mr. Pavlov said he travelled to Washington in May 1941 and met White at a Washington restaurant.

Beria's orders for Mr. Pavlov, conveyed in turn to Mr. White, came in three parts: The United States should demand that Japan stop aggression against

China, withdraw its forces from the Asian continent and free Manchuria from de facto Japanese control.

All three parts found their ways into the Hull note.

"Japan's expansion in Asia was threatening the Soviet Far East at a time when we were anticipating war with Germany," Mr. Pavlov told the Mainichi.

"We had to avoid a possible second front (with Japan in the Far East). We did not directly plan to trigger war between Japan and the United States, but if that happened, we did not mind."

"I told White it was up to him to find plausible reasons for the United States to make those demands to Japan."

Mr. Pavlov retired from the Soviet KGB secret service in 1987 and has just finished an unpublished memoir.

Mr. White became head of the International Monetary Fund in 1946. He was summoned in the "red purge" hearings by Senator Joe McCarthy but died in 1948 before any evidence was found.



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Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

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MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
 University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 6843111, 6996344

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 696183

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Signals of hope

DAMASCUS IS busy sending one signal after the other to Washington and Israel that it is ready to resume peace talks and that it has faith in Prime Minister Shimon Peres as a peace partner. The official daily Tishreen has recently depicted Mr. Peres as a man free from the pressure of Jewish hardliners and extremists. Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq Al Sharaa has described Mr. Peres as "a man who wants peace." Peres, Mr. Sharaa has said, was different from the late Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin because he considers peace more important than elections. This is the farthest that Damascus has ever gone to endorse an Israeli leader and express its readiness to work with him. The U.S. decision to send Dennis Ross, the special Middle East peace coordinator, to the region soon after his visit to Israel earlier this week suggests that an opportunity exists to reactivate the stalled peace negotiations between Israel and Syria.

Tishreen's assertion that Syria's commitment for peace is a strategic one triggered a fresh flurry of political activity on the Syrian front. Coupled with the Syrian government's new message to the U.S. that it wants to speed up negotiations on the basis of optimistic expectations from the new Israeli prime minister, the stage has become set for a new round of peace talks that could prove fruitful. Mr. Peres is obviously keen on accelerating these talks in a bid to strengthen his grip on power and to put the process on an irreversible path. With national elections not far from the horizon, the Israeli prime minister must deliver on his promise to his people that he will attain for them comprehensive peace within a reasonable time and by so doing secure them with safe borders and a better quality of life. Israel would be the first to recognise that peace in the Middle East would remain elusive as long as Damascus is kept out of it. What started with Egypt cannot possibly end without Syria. Mr. Sharaa has said on record that his country would play its role to "persuade" Lebanese guerrillas to lay down their arms after peace is signed with Israel. This promise must be assuring for Israeli policymakers who would like nothing more than a safe northern border.

In actual terms, Syria and Israel were not too far apart even when Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was still in office. The sticking point then was over security arrangements that would have included an Israeli early warning station situated on Syrian territory, something that President Hafez Assad would not accept. Mr. Peres is expected to be bolder in the quest for peace with Syria and Lebanon as he seems to be liberated from the constraints of irrational Jewish extremists in the aftermath of the assassination of Mr. Rabin. There is nothing that could please peace-loving people more than to see a real movement on the Syrian-Israeli front. The hands of the forces of peace everywhere would be strengthened a great deal once the Israeli Syrian track starts moving ahead.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A WRITER in Al Ra'i Tuesday attacked those Muslim radicals who opt for killing innocent people in order to achieve their goals and singled out the radicals of Egypt, Algeria and Afghanistan as examples for groups that carry out atrocities in order to take control of those countries. Hosni Ayesh said that all the killing, the car bomb blasts and the assassinations are alien to the teachings of Islam and the perpetrators are criminals and terrorists not martyrs or heroes. Islam never taught people to kill but to be tolerant and resort for reason and dialogue. The Islamist groups that use violence and killing to achieve their ends are violating the Islamic faith and doing Muslims a great deal of harm. Their actions are tarnishing Muslims and Islam, said the writer. In the eyes of non-Muslims Islam is now Muslims behave and what they do, and so we cannot accuse the West of misinterpreting Islam when we ourselves are distorting its image and abusing our own faith, continued the writer. If these Islamists assume power through their actions, through blowing up hospitals and schools and murdering innocent civilians like nuns and school children they must expect that others would pay them in the same coin.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dastour daily discussed investments in the country and said business people are attracted to invest in Jordan once they find the right opportune climate to do so. Encouraging investments is not achieved through mere legislations and laws but rather through creating the right climate characterised by flexibility and the removal of all obstacles before investors, said Mohammad Kawash. The writer said that he had found that Jordanian business people have invested in 106 projects in Egypt, noting that all these projects are successful thanks to their management and the highly conducive climate in which they operate and the facilities they receive. The writer said if the Arab governments wish to see Arab capital invested in the Arab World they ought to pave the way for such investments not by words and intentions alone but rather by deeds. Efforts should be made towards finding new techniques to help attract investments rather than mere praising of the investment-promotion legislations and rules, otherwise Jordan will continue to see a drain of funds

M. KAHIL



Algeria after the vote

By G.H. Jansen

ON NOV. 16 the Algerian people went to the polls to elect their president despite threats by the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) and the Armed Islamic Groups (GIA), which ordered the people not to vote and threatened to kill them if they did. "The ballot box will be your coffin," was one threat. Yet 75 per cent of the electorate went to the polls and stood patiently in long queues waiting for their turns.

That mass disobedience was a momentous event. Indeed, some might even say that elections were the first sign of the turning of the popular tide against militant political Islam, which had seemed to be making irresistible advances in many Muslim countries against corrupt authoritarian governments.

It was democracy, with considerable help from the GIA, which defeated mili-

tant political Islam in Algeria, and this could be a prelude of and an example for what could happen in other Muslim countries.

FIS and the GIA spokesmen go on and on endlessly about how in 1991 the military junta, which still rules Algeria, "robbed" them of victory by cancelling that year's parliamentary election, which the FIS was bound to win and which then led directly to four years of bloody civil war. The GIA and the FIS, conveniently, do not mention that only 40 per cent of the electorate went to the polls then and of that 40 per cent, only 40 per cent voted for the Islamists.

But the 1991 elections were four years ago and the fact is that in November 1995, the Algerian people were quite ready to forget and forgive the army's act of usurpation and obeyed the army's call to go out and vote.

And that was because of

the way in which the Islamists, especially the GIA, behaved or misbehaved in the civil war. The GIA's behaviour was cruel and brutal in the extreme.

The GIA went so far that the average Muslim, even though he or she might have been a devout Muslim, decided not to have any part in this barbarity.

And how is the menace of Islamist militancy to be fought? Not through repression, which has failed wherever it has been tried. The Algerian army has been doing something worse. It has spawned a group of officers and men, "les eradicateurs," who "fighting fire with fire," believe the only way to eliminate the militants is by using the same brutal tactics. This can only have very limited tactical results.

The better and longer lasting tactic than repression is cooption: To draw the militants out and get

them to participate in the political and social process and when that is done to make them responsible for practical governance. General Liamine Zeroual, the incumbent president who won the elections handsomely and who does not favour the eradicateurs, practiced cooption by getting some Islamist groups to take part in the last election.

All these tactics were laid out in a remarkable book published by the Rand Corporation, the U.S. think tank, "The Sense of Siege," by Graham Fuller and Ian Lesser, which gives credit to Jordan for already having shown the way by using the tactics of cooption and responsibility in dealing with Muslim Brotherhood. The Muslim Brothers were permitted to take part in the general elections of 1989. The Brothers were then for a short period, given responsibility for no less than five ministerial

portfolios.

If and when Mr. Zeroual brings Islamists into government, he would then place on them the burden of responsibility.

To succeed in the opportunity now offered him, President Zeroual, after using cooption and responsibility, must keep the promises he has made and hold to ideas he has said to have held before the elections: That he should deal with both the zealots and the eradicateurs and that there should be all round dialogue. And he should hold elections, both general and municipal, and the populace must be strongly urged to get out and vote. But for the FIS to work itself back into general acceptability, it will have to disconnect itself from the GIA, a process which has probably begun already, now that the Algerians have broken the spell of paralysing fear that the men of the GIA had cast on them.

Walesa's defeat marks end of era in Poland

By Michel Viatteau
 Agence France Presse

WARSAW — Lech Walesa's defeat in the presidential elections marks the end of an era in Poland, where for a quarter century his name has been synonymous with the fight for freedom and democracy.

The stocky electrician whose rose to fame from the grimy shipyards of Gdansk in the 1970s was outpaced by an urbane 41-year-old ex-communist who plays tennis in his leisure time and enjoys speaking English to reporters.

Observers attributed Mr. Walesa's defeat partly to the fact that he was no longer in tune with the hopes and aspirations of ordinary Poles and partly to his manipulative, authoritarian leadership style — a far

cry from his days as a worker's hero who mobilised shipyard workers against communism.

"Walesa wanted to frighten the Poles, even if he promised a normal life. Aleksander Kwasniewski was efficient, normal, professional. But his election means that the future becomes a big unknown. Which allies will Kwasniewski look for?" commented historian Adam Michnik in an editorial Monday.

Mr. Michnik, who backed Mr. Walesa, also said that voters were weary of in-fighting among top political leaders. Solidarity's rhetoric, as well as the church's aggressive stance against the former communist.

But it seemed clear that for most Poles, Mr. Walesa's defeat had more signifi-

cance than Mr. Kwasniewski's victory.

"It is more Walesa who has lost than Kwasniewski who has won," said historian Bronislaw Geremek of the main opposition Union for Liberty.

Speaking on private Radio Zet, Mr. Geremek said Mr. Walesa suffered from an "erosion of authority," mainly because of his authoritarian style and attempts to "manipulate the right."

Mr. Walesa's defeat was also a bitter blow for the Catholic Church, as the new president-elect has openly opposed the church's influence in Poland and has said he wants to overturn the abortion ban.

Church leaders repeatedly hinted during the electoral campaign that it would be dangerous to have as presi-

dent a man who was in open conflict with the church.

In overwhelmingly Catholic Poland, where 95 per cent of the population is Catholic, such a warning should have wiped out Mr. Kwasniewski's chances.

But his ratings continued to rise, and Polish primate Cardinal Jozef Glemp stepped in over the weekend by calling for prayers for Mr. Walesa at Saturday night and Sunday morning mass.

Some electoral committees in districts of southern Silesia protested, saying the law requires 36 hours prior to the day of the vote.

Some practising Catholics simply decided that the church had gone too far. "I walked out of the church in the middle of mass when the priest asked us to vote for Walesa. I am

a believer, but I think that the current president gives too much power to the clergy," said a female student of Kielce, in central Poland.

By Mr. Walesa's defeat is by no means the end of his political career. Mr. Kwasniewski, well aware of Mr. Walesa's potential clout in the opposition camp, appealed Sunday to his rival's supporters to work together.

"There is a lot of room in Poland. A lot of work. We have a lot of problems to resolve," said the ex-communist leader.

"We must seize the opportunity to join European structures. These works can only be carried out together. By the voters of Lech Walesa, by the voters of Aleksander Kwasniewski, and by those who did not take part in the vote."

Planners must consider the plight of Balkans' displaced

By Arthur C. Helton

NEW YORK — As diplomatic efforts proceed towards possible settlement of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia, a key issue has emerged in the talks — arrangements for the nearly 4 million people displaced by the war.

This vast homeless population, spread from Stockholm to Belgrade, is composed of people in a wide variety of circumstances, including victims of brutality by erstwhile neighbors, members of mixed families unable to return to "ethnically pure" territories and evaders of military service in a war they regard as immoral.

The sometimes optimistic tenor of the negotiations is belied by the reality on the ground. Not only have people been ousted from their homes, but recent reports of mass murder and brutality have permeated the media. Can the international community realistically ask these victims of massacres and atrocities to return and live together? Ask a young Serbian woman violently expelled from her home by Muslim-Croatian forces if she would be able to live in peace with Muslims and Croats.

Ask a Muslim boy who watched his brother killed by Serbian soldiers if he

would play ball with Serbian children. As high-level political discussions take place far from the killing fields, the eyes of the traumatised seem to tell a different story.

The fact that refugees are a central consideration in the negotiations is, of course, not surprising; a basic objective of the war was to cause displacement to create ethnically "pure" jurisdictions. Repatriation under these circumstances will necessarily present complex political issues and could establish important precedents for international action in the future.

In September, representatives of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia negotiated a set of "agreed basic principles," recognising the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republika Srpska. These new entities agreed "to adopt and adhere to normal international human rights standards, including the obligation to allow freedom of movement and enable displaced persons to repossess their homes or receive just compensation." The parties have agreed to establish intergovernmental commissions for displaced persons and refugees, as well as a human rights commission, to implement these commit-

ments.

In the implementation of a repatriation plan, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is to take the lead. Insists "the voluntary nature of return must be fully respected" and is committed to monitoring the situation of returnees "both in the majority and minority areas."

But genuine individual choice may be difficult to exercise in the face of political imperatives. Also, for some, repatriation may be infeasible — for example, for people in mixed marriages and for those who have been persecuted atrociously. In such cases, third-country resettlement and local integration schemes will be necessary.

Onomously, UNHCR acknowledges the likelihood of "further population displacements in the immediate phase." These fears are well-founded. Recently, there have been several reports of coerced movements as the parties to the conflict urge selective resettlement to strengthen their political positions when the final maps are drawn.

In September, the UNHCR protested to the Croatian and Bosnian governments about the forced return of refugees to Bosnia and Herzegovina, in violation of international refugee treaties. Also in

September, Radovan Karadzic, leader of the Bosnian Serbs, ordered displaced Serbs to leave Banja Luka and resettle in designated municipalities or face losing accommodation, food and health care.

Repatriation should not be promoted as a solution for refugees and displaced persons until the basic dignity and security of individuals are respected. Specifically, the conflict should have abated and attendant risks, such as land mines, should have been minimised.

In even more elemental terms, respect for human rights and the right to freely choose a place of residence are paramount preconditions to encouraging return. Objective information sources must be established to enable prospective returnees to make informed decisions. Effective confidence-building measures will be crucial to overcoming fear, suspicion and hatred.

As the UNHCR states in its preliminary plan, repatriation "should be a joint effort of all capable organisations — the U.N. system, regional organisations, international financial institutions, non-governmental organisations — and bilateral donors."

Crucial implementation details are being discussed at the "proximity talks"

under way in Dayton, Ohio. These should include the structure and activities of the commissions on human rights as well as refugees and displaced persons.

Independent experts and non-governmental organisation representatives should have significant roles in these commissions, providing advice or monitoring compliance to minimise the risks of human rights violations and further conflict.

As currently configured, international institutions are ill-equipped to deal with "post-emergency" situations involving solutions for forcibly displaced people. Humanitarian relief should lead to development, but political will is often lacking to ensure sustainable physical development.

Perhaps more important of all, the immediate protection of people forced to flee must lead to systematic respect for human rights and encouragement of the evolution of open societies. An extraordinary effort will be required to realise the perhaps now-distant dream of the multiethnic Bosnian and Herzegovina.

The writer, director of migration programmes at the Open Society Institute, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

By Ali Kassay

High noon-thirty

THE MIDDLE East and North Africa (MENA) economic summit was a most significant event in the history of Jordan, in that it symbolised a new and realistic orientation. A country like Jordan, limited in its area and natural resources, and, by consequence, in the population size that it can support, will only thrive by virtue of the role that it plays in its immediate region and in the world at large. This realisation is not new to the Jordanian leadership that has always tried to pilot the country along a constructive path in the turbulent waters of Middle East politics. The novelty lies in the new opportunity offered by the MENA summit for the people (represented by the private sector) to chip in and do their bit, and to benefit in the process.

The summit has achieved its objective of impressing potential investors. Enough participants in the conference left Jordan satisfied that this is a good place for them to invest their money. So far so good. Now the problem is to live up to capitalise on this gain. The order of the day, we all agree, is to make the country investor-friendly by eradicating the barriers that obstruct business. I would like to fulfil my duty as a good citizen by suggesting one way of achieving this objective.

After considerable reflection it would appear that one of the main obstacles to overcome is that of the magical hour, half past twelve. For some inexplicable reason, this hour has been designated as the end of all monetary transactions in Jordanian banks and civil service departments. So how will foreign investors be able to transfer their moneys into the country when the banks offer them no more than four hours of banking a day? Whether your transaction consists of a simple current account entry, or a multi-million international letter of credit, customer interface will stop at half past twelve. One wonders if this is compatible with Jordan's objective of leading into the twenty-first century as a prosperous centre for regional and international business.

Moreover, someone should explain to our bureaucracy that keeping businessmen in the country means letting them work in the country, not keeping them chasing papers in government offices. The complicated bureaucratic procedures are a byword in this country. But the ultimate perversity is that one always has to pay his fees in several instalments, punctuated by rounds of rubber stamp and signature collection. The ultimate in frustration is to complete one's work, except for a payment of 100 Fils which would have to be done the following day since the cashier's office has closed.

I wish someone could explain to me what is so special about twelve o'clock. Gary Cooper met the Miller gang at high noon. In the fairy tale, the Fairy Godmother spoiled poor Cinderella's party by turning her coach into a pumpkin and her coach driver into a rat at the stroke of twelve. By the same token, and as if by the work of the same Fairy Godmother, cashier's offices in every bank and civil service department in Jordan close at half past twelve, and, ironically, many cillars turn into taxi drivers.

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Prime minister pledges to rectify associations' situation

(Continued from page 1)

and leave politics to the representatives of people in Parliament.

The prime minister, Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, has described the attitude of "peace opponents" in a recent interview as "unjust and unfair".

Khaled Saeed said that the silent majority has chosen to march behind the wise Hashemite leadership and to join the camp of peace, the camp of affection and brotherly love.

Bosnian factions seal historic peace deal

(Continued from page 1)

to the U.N. indicated that the resolutions would be offered with an eye toward passage Wednesday. The Security Council was scheduled to meet on the proposals beginning at 2100 GMT Tuesday.

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali thanked Mr. Clinton following his announcement, and asked the world to recognise the role played by U.N. peacekeepers, who he said helped "contain" the conflict.

"I want to thank President Clinton of the United States for the peace initiative he undertook which brought the contending parties to the negotiating table," Dr. Boutros-Ghali said in a statement.

In Brussels NATO hailed the Bosnia peace agreement and said it was ready to send in a planned 60,000-strong force to help implement the agreement.

"We welcome the announcement of the peace deal which offers the opportunity to obtain a just and lasting peace in the former Yugoslavia," an alliance spokesman said.

He added: "NATO is ready to apply the military aspects of the peace deal according to the terms of an appropriate resolution voted by the U.N. Security Council."

NATO has been preparing a force of 60,000 men from around 20 countries for its first military land operation to support the peace accord in Bosnia.

With the addition of reserves, support camps, pilots, sailors as well as civilians more than 100,000 people including some 40,000 soldiers will take part in the bid to implement the peace deal negotiated in the United States, a diplomat said.

The United Nations needs to ratify the agreement and allow in the same resolution or in a separate one for NATO to implement the accords.

The North Atlantic Cooperation Council (NACC) — NATO's highest decision-making body — must approve the military plan and order the start of the operation so that the first troops can be deployed.

In Madrid, European Union (EU) President Spain pledged the 15-nation would do all in its power to help translate into reality the accord reached at Dayton.

"The (EU) presidency reiterates the EU's will to contribute to the implementation of the civilian aspects of the peace accord and to participate in international efforts to back the reconstruction and stabilisation of the region," it said in a statement.

"The European Union and its member states will contribute in a substantial way in the same spirit as they have carried out their peacekeeping and humanitarian operations," it said.

The statement, issued in the names of European Commission President Jacques Santer and External Affairs Commissioner Hans Van Den Broek welcomed the peace deal.

"It puts an end to incredible suffering of all the peoples involved in the conflict," it said.

Peres announces cabinet

(Continued from page 1)

And above all we have to avoid widening the large differences among the people."

But he acknowledged that given more time he would have been able to broaden the slim coalition base which under Mr. Rabin counted on the support of 63 deputies in the Knesset.

Environment Minister Yossi Saird, a Meretz member, said the earlier dispute centred on "unacceptable" promises made to religious leaders.

"He has presented us with a document which is unacceptable on the commitments made by Labour to the national religious party, which they have signed and which cast doubt on our participation in the coalition," he said before the Peres announcement.

There had also been a delay when Police Minister Moshe Shahal, 61, threatened to resign because he was not being promoted.

He was finally appointed minister of internal security, widening his responsibilities. But state radio said Mr. Shahal would not have control of the Shin Bet internal security services.

And in a move to overcome the left-right rift between Israelis, Mr. Peres appointed settler Rabbi Yehuda Amital as a minister without portfolio to lead contacts with religious leaders and settlers.

"My role will be to show that all religious people are not extremists or supporters of Kahane," he said, referring to the anti-Arab Rabbi Meir Kahane killed in New York in 1990.

Rabbi Amital, 71, heads Meimad, a moderate religious movement set up in 1988 and which supports the idea of making territorial concessions in exchange for peace.

The rest of the Labour cabinet remained unchanged.

Rights group urges ban on arms sales to Turkey

(Continued from page 1)

issue, coincided with accusations by Turkish President Suleiman Demirel that Syria was aiding and harbouring what he called anti-Turkey terrorists — a clear reference to the PKK.

On Monday, Mr. Demirel was quoted by London-based Arabic daily Al Hayat as saying Ankara tried to reach agreement with Damascus over the issue but failed, adding "the problem of terrorism in our country is that Syria supports it and gives it shelter."

But PKK chief Abdullah Ocalan told Al Hayat in an interview published also Monday that the PKK had no formal relations with Syria but that Damascus "does not make us enemies... and it wants to consolidate friendship with the Kurdish people."

Thousands of PKK guerrillas have trained in mountain camps in eastern Lebanon's Syrian-controlled Bekaa valley until 1992 when the Lebanese government shut down the bases.

More than 18,000 people have been killed in the PKK's fight for self-rule in southeast Turkey since 1984. The Turkish government has spurned seeking a political solution and is intent on defeating the PKK militarily.

12 killed in Baghdad blast — opposition

DUBAI (AFP) — Twelve people were killed and 20 wounded in a car-bomb attack in central Baghdad on Tuesday.

A spokesman for the Iraqi National Congress, a coalition of opposition groups, told AFP by telephone from London that the building which houses the Baath offices was destroyed in the attack last Thursday. But residents of the Iraqi capital, questioned by AFP, said they heard no such explosion on the day.

Euro-Med meeting aims for peace in place of strife

By Jeremy Lovell
Reuter

BRUSSELS — The European Union (EU) and a host of Mediterranean states meet this month to try to find common ground on which to build defences against violence, racism and instability.

The task facing the foreign ministers from the 15 EU states and 12 non-EU Mediterranean countries taking part in the meeting in Barcelona on Nov. 27 and 28 is gargantuan.

Algeria has been waging bloody civil war with Islamic fundamentalists for four years and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin — a major force in the Middle East peace process — has been assassinated by a fellow Jew.

Egypt is facing increasing fundamentalist tension and even Saudi Arabia, a keeper of Islam's main shrines and whose ambassador will attend the Barcelona conference as an observer, has suffered a car bomb attack in the centre of its capital.

Against this backdrop, Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, the Palestinian autonomous territories, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey will sit down with the EU to agree a broad policy of political and economic cooperation.

The Barcelona declaration pledges to fight terrorism, prevent the proliferation of weapons off mass destruction, respect mutual borders, promote human rights and religious tolerance, combat organised crime and drugs trafficking, and create a Euro-Mediterranean free trade area by 2010.

"Fighting drugs, terrorism, fundamentalism, and protecting the environment cannot be dealt with bilaterally, they have to be treated globally," a Brussels-based Tunisian diplomat told Reuters.

"Barcelona will not just be positive. It will be a success because we are going there with a spirit of complementarity not confrontation. Barcelona is an idea whose time is ripe."

The European Union, which already has or is in the process of negotiating bilateral trade deals with most of the Barcelona participants, is of the same opinion.

"The conference does not take the place of the bilateral relationships between the EU and its Mediterranean partners, but will give them added value with the aim of agreeing on priorities on a multilateral level," it said in a covernote to the draft declaration.

The EU already has association accords with Tunisia, Israel and Morocco. It aims to conclude one with Jordan by mid-1996 and Egypt by the end of next year.

It has opened talks with Lebanon, is in preliminary discussions with Algeria and has said it will start negotiating with Syria and the Palestine authority when the time is ripe.

European Parliament willing, the EU will have a

customs union with Turkey — the only NATO-member of the 12 — in January and has agreed a timetable for starting formal talks with Cyprus and Malta on joining the bloc.

The EU has also promised to distribute 4.6 billion currency units (\$6 billion) in development and infrastructure aid around the region over the next five years.

With all that already under its belt, the EU is now aiming to put its mouth where its money is.

"We need to develop a broad, integrated approach both economically and politically. We need to tackle intolerance, terrorism, drugs and instability," Manuel Marin, the European commissioner responsible for the region, said earlier this year.

"We must not repeat the errors of the past," he said.

France, suffering from a rash of bomb attacks attributed to Algerian Islamic fundamentalists, will be particularly interested in the outcome and follow-up to the conference.

If the recent marathon negotiations between the EU and Morocco leading to agreement on an association accord are anything to go by, many EU members will be equally interested in the question of immigration from the south.

Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium led the demands that Morocco take back its illegal immigrants.

But they were not the only countries to voice concern that their relative wealth was proving too much of a lure to their poorer southern neighbours, with consequent socially and economically disruptive effects at home.

"We know very well that the only way we have of controlling intolerance and immigration in order to maintain political stability in the south of Europe is economic cooperation," Commissioner Marin said.

The choice of Barcelona as the conference venue is apt.

The ancient city is a major Mediterranean port and

commercial centre that in its history has been occupied by Romans, Visigoths, Moors and Franks. It is, as such, a melting pot for the array of cultures attending the conference.

"Barcelona is at the same time symbolic and the launch of a process," one Middle Eastern diplomat said. "We will continue to meet periodically at foreign ministers level to review progress and give new impetus where needed."

Apart from the 27 countries that will sign the Barcelona declaration, Mauritania, the Arab League and the Arab Maghreb Union will also attend as special guests.

Hovering on the fringes of the event will be ambassadors from the United States, Russia, Slovenia, Albania, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Saudi Arabia.

Security in the Catalan city is likely to be a nightmare.



Close encounter: Prosecution and defence lawyers crowd together during the O.J. trial. From left: Johnnie Cochran, Marcia Clark, Robert Shapiro and Christopher Darden

After O. J., the cash still goes round and round

Trial of the century: The main player now cuts a sorry figure but the supporting cast is wheeling and dealing with a vengeance

By John Carlin

ARE MARCIA Clark and Christopher Darden, the black and white prosecutors in the O. J. Simpson trial, having an affair? Will they walk down the aisle together? Or is Darden "seeing" Anita Hill? Will O. J.'s girlfriend, Paula Barbieri, have him back? Will any woman take him? Who scored the bigger book deal: Johnnie Cochran, O. J.'s defence lawyer, or Ms. Clark?

For all the best efforts of Bill Clinton and Newt Gingrich to focus national attention on the budget, it is these and other questions that continue to agitate the celebrity-mad public.

"Juicewatch," the tabloid soap opera, just runs and runs.

Some of the questions have been answered. Some still linger, as unresolved as the murders of Nicole Brown, and her friend Ronald Goldman. Ms. Clark

and Mr. Darden were seen on holiday together at the Lake Tahoe resort a few days after the trial. They were photographed coming out of a Los Angeles hotel.

So they might have been involved. But sadly, no, they are not getting married. Ms. Clark said during a speech at a women's California, on Tuesday that she "burst out laughing" when she read the report in a supermarket tabloid.

But, yes, according to sources at the William Morris talent agency, their client Mr. Darden is engaging in consensual sex with Anita Hill, a law professor from Oklahoma who leapt

to fame a few years back when she accused Clarence Thomas, the Supreme Court judge, of sexual harassment. William Morris has an interest in perpetuating the Darden mystique, for they helped him sign a publishing deal worth \$1.3 million with HarperCollins: a nice sum but \$2.9 million less than Ms. Clark secured from Viking for her book.

Mr. Cochran has also signed up for a book: My Journey to Justice. He has obtained "a very substantial multi-million dollar deal." But his refusal to specify just how much he is getting suggests he is miffed at Ms.

Clark for having lost the legal battle but winning the Battle of the Books. Alan Dershowitz, another lawyer of the Simpson "Dream Team," is picking up a mere \$500,000 for Reasonable Doubts, a book he says will be of an academic bent.

O. J., meanwhile, is cutting a rather sorry figure. He has been kicked out of his favourite golf club; he has been dumped by his agency, Creative Management; he continues to be bombarded with death threats; he still faces ruin in pending "wrongful death" civil suits brought by the Brown and Goldman families; no one has yet made

him an offer to write a new book; and last weekend he endured the ignominy of being told to stay away from a sports memorabilia convention in Atlantic City: he had been hoping to sell autographed photographs, at \$159.95, of the highway pursuit that preceded his arrest in June 1994.

The word is that O. J. spends most of his time at his Los Angeles home doing nothing — and alone. Ms. Barbieri, a 28-year-old Playboy and underwear model, dumped him live on ABC television a couple of weeks back. She said she had stayed celibate during O. J.'s imprisonment but

was disappointed in her hopes that he would return a better person. What did it, she said, was his proposal that they should sell photographs of their reunion to the highest, tabloid bidder.

"It was all of a sudden. 'Well, they'll play lots of money for pictures of you and I together,'" Ms. Barbieri told ABC. "And then the next thing I know he's coming. And he's got the photograph with him."

In case anyone has failed to get the moral of the O. J. story, that money in America is everything, here's the quote of the year from Ms. Barbieri's brother Michael.

Angry that his father and half-brother were paid to appear on television but that he had missed out, he told People magazine when they refused to cough up for an interview: "I'm not going to stab my sister in the back for nothing."

The Independent

Uneasy peace lights Clinton's path to Belfast

By Martin Cowley
Reuter

BELFAST — Belfast's Europa was once known as the most bombed hotel in Western Europe. Now it's fit for a U.S. president.

Bill Clinton flies in on Nov. 30 for a historic trip to boost hopes of agreement on the future of British Northern Ireland, currently undergoing an uneasy transition to peace after 25 years of political and sectarian conflict.

Shadowed by an army of bodyguards, Mr. Clinton will walk streets that were once a war zone.

Security is still so tight that no one is saying where he might spend the night — the first U.S. president to dare to do so for decades — but most people think it will be the Europa.

Until guerrilla truces 15 months ago, Northern Ireland had been in a nose-dive. Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrillas attacked British troops to end British rule and bombed targets with the vaguest links to London. Killings and fear

abounded. Protestant gunmen killed ordinary Catholics to cow the community from which the IRA drew support. Catholics feared the unexpected knock at the door.

Shops, offices and restaurants were blitzed. Security bases faced nightly gun and bomb attacks. Armed police walked the streets shadowed by military bodyguards and vehicles.

In the staunchly Republican Falls road, Catholics renamed a street "RPG Avenue" after the IRA's rocket propelled grenades. Security forces trod warily around "Claymore Corner," named after a land mine. But for 15 months, the guns have been silent.

Rival extremists stashed them and declared ceasefires hoping to be given a voice in round-table talks.

For the first time in 25 years, British soldiers no longer patrol nationalist areas where Catholics despised them as an oppressive colonial force. Police officers patrol without heavy calibre guns or bullet-proof vests.

Inconceivable before the truces, U.S. security advisers consider it safe for Mr. Clinton to spend the night in the city centre.

A long chapter of violence has closed but no one can be sure whether the book is fully closed. A dark era of funerals and bitterness gave the province a deathly sinister image abroad.

Car bombs, military checkpoints and security searches deterred shoppers from Belfast city centre.

The province's hotel trade suffered. The only visitors staying midweek were those who couldn't get a flight out.

Two years ago an IRA car bomb ripped through the 13-storey hotel, devastated the Ormate grand opera house nearby and wrecked the offices of the pro-British Ulster Unionist Party.

For the 30th time in 25 years, the Europa was windowless and damaged cars littered its forecourt.

Six months later new owners, the Hastings Hotel Group, paid £3 million (\$4.68 million) for it and set

about ploughing £4 million (\$6.24 million) more into redesign and refurbishment. The peace process did the rest.

Property analysts estimate the Europa is worth some £16.0 million (\$24.95 million) now.

Midweek trade is largely British, American and European. Weekends bring a big inflow of people from the Irish Republic, coming on shopping and social trips, in stark contrast with the past when cross-border leisure traffic shunned the region.

Belfast is now in its second "peacetime" Christmas shopping period and traders say business is booming.

The IRA declared a cessation of hostilities in September 1994 and its focus in pro-British "Loyalist" bands proclaimed a matching truce six weeks later.

The change is "fantastic," according to John Stringer, chief executive of the Belfast-based Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce.

"One of the most beneficial points for ordinary people has been the restoration of confidence and the ability to move around any part of the country without fear," he told Reuters.

The lifting of city centre restrictions and shop-entrance security checks has had a huge impact in Belfast and elsewhere.

"There is a tremendous increase in activity," Mr. Stringer said.

In North Belfast, where one-fifth of the conflict's 3,200 deaths occurred, people cling to hopes that peace is permanent.

Sluggish progress towards negotiations fuels alienation among Catholics who want an end to British rule. Protestant frustration grows at British refusal to free all jailed guerrillas.

The largely Protestant Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) police force encounters stiff resistance from supporters of Sinn Fein, the IRA's political wing, who say it was a heavy-handed associate of the military during the long guerrilla war.

RUC officers insist that they now operate in a better

atmosphere and are making positive contact with Catholics: They no longer face guerrilla violence and the threat of ambushes.

RUC chief inspector Roy Dunn explained: "We are concentrating very hard on improving the quality of service we provide to the community... Calls to the police for assistance have increased 60 per cent within the past year."

The slow return to normality, that has somehow survived a tortuous twisting political trail, is the spark lighting the path for Mr. Clinton's arrival.

A special bond exists between Ireland and the U.S., where more than 40 million classify themselves as Irish-American, but all involved in the Northern Ireland trauma urge Mr. Clinton not to be partisan in efforts to narrow the gap between the factions.

In the background, though, all sides are vying to get him on their side, seeing him as a "facilitator" who can influence final accord to end Europe's longest guerrilla conflict.

Saudis say oil price too low as OPEC meets

VIENNA (AFP) — Saudi Arabia's Oil and Mineral Resources Minister Ali Naimi said here Tuesday that crude oil prices on world markets ought to be "higher."

He made the remark as Venezuela's Erwin Arieta, outgoing president of the 12-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), said non-OPEC producers had "unduly abused" efforts by OPEC to stabilise the market.

Sheikh Naimi's comment came as OPEC ministers were faced with the dilemma of how to support prices against a background of rising non-OPEC crude oil output and substantial over-shooting of national quotas by several OPEC members.

Mr. Arieta warned in his opening address that a serious "imbalance" in the market carried a "potential risk of... a dangerous price war" which could have "devastating effects" on oil producers' economies and threaten the security of supply of consumer nations.

He said "the continued, substantial rise in non-OPEC production," which had dominated the market in recent months, reflected a "serious anomaly."

While OPEC's proven oil reserves were three times larger than non-OPEC reserves and "vastly more accessible and less expensive to exploit," forecasts for non-OPEC supply for 1995-96 had been revised upwards, and those of supply from OPEC reduced, Mr. Arieta said.

He said producers outside the organisation had taken advantage of OPEC's self-imposed curbs on output to "steadily erode our market share."

While OPEC was producing below capacity, other producers were "stretching their capacity to the limit."

Mr. Arieta warned that this situation involved "dangers in the longer term" because "unchecked increases in non-OPEC supply are depriving OPEC countries of investment funds required for investment in new capacity" needed to meet world demand in a few years.

This could put the world on course for "future supply crises" accompanied by "an escalation in prices and widespread instability" in the markets, the Venezuelan minister said.

Ammar Makhloufi, Algeria's minister of industry and energy, who was elected to

succeed Mr. Arieta as OPEC president, told reporters before the ministers tackled their agenda that "improved prices and income are the joint objective of OPEC and non-OPEC producers."

In his opening speech, the Venezuelan minister called on both groups of producers to join hands to secure a "more harmonious" development of oil markets and secure a sharing of advanced technology in the face of carbon-energy taxes considered by some countries.

Imposing such taxes could "add to the threat of a future capacity crunch" while it had been demonstrated that oil was cleaner than coal, safer than nuclear and far less destructive to the environment than hydroelectrical energy, he argued.

Mr. Arieta also said it was "sad" that Gabon, which was not represented at the opening of the conference, had thought it necessary to "reconsider" its membership of OPEC.

He said he remained "confident" that a solution could be found to keep Gabon as a member.

The ministers suspended their talks after a less than 90-minute session and the conference was to resume Wednesday at 0900 GMT.

Meanwhile, Norwegian Oil Minister Jens Stoltenberg gave no hint Tuesday that Norway would cut back its oil production in the North Sea.

"There is strong demand for oil all over the world and production will have to cope with this development," the minister said at the opening of the "Advanced Project" conference in Stavanger.

More than 200 participants from many countries were taking part in this conference.

"In an increasing market, there must be room for increased production," Mr. Stoltenberg said, but he denied allegations that countries outside the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) are to blame for increased production.

In 1984, the expected production in 1994 was put at 60 million tonnes oil equivalent, and this was upgraded in 1990 to be 100 million tonnes of oil equivalent.

"The actual figure for 1994 showed that production reached 150 million tonnes, and we have to admit that world growth has been very strong," the minister stressed.

Aid for poorest states under threat, World Bank head says

BONN (AFP) — World Bank President James Wolfensohn warned Tuesday of "unthinkable" consequences if other donor countries follow the United States in slashing their contribution to the body's special lending arm for the world's poorest countries.

Congress wants to cut the pledged U.S. contribution for the current three-year funding period of the International Development Association (IDA) from \$12.5 billion to around \$700 million, as a result of which other World Bank members were "trying to hold the IDA together," Mr. Wolfensohn said.

He said if other donor countries made cuts in the same proportions, this would reduce IDA funds to 78 percent of the current level — from \$6 billion to \$3.5 billion a year.

"If we cut the IDA in half, it would be an enormous blow to our activities," the World Bank president said. "It's a crisis."

This was a case where "the rest of the world has to lead itself" and not follow the

U.S. example, which he hoped was just "a moment of aberration" by Congress.

"Otherwise you're going to have 78 countries literally on the ropes," Mr. Wolfensohn told journalists during a first official visit to Bonn for talks with the German government.

Germany is the third biggest donor for the IDA, after the United States and Japan and it is also the third biggest World Bank shareholder after the other two.

Germany and Canada, the sixth biggest contributor, have already imposed limits on use of their contributions for the current July 1993-June 1996 funding period because of the U.S. move, and there are fears future contributions will now be hit.

The IDA lends money to countries unable to afford the market cost of credit. Loans are interest-free, repayable over 35-40 years after a 10-year grace period, with just a 0.75 per cent service charge.

About half of current IDA funds are expected to go to sub-Saharan African countries. Much of the rest is for China, India, Bangladesh,

Pakistan and Nepal, with smaller amounts for Latin America, the Middle East and elsewhere.

Average income in eligible countries is under \$2 per day per head.

Over 30 IDA donor countries met in Luxembourg at the weekend and agreed the outlines of an arrangement to try to maintain their contribution levels in the hope that the United States would make up its shortfall later.

Mr. Wolfensohn said he hoped that Congress was on an "inward-looking cycle" which it would come out of again. "It's not just a financial problem, it's a structural problem, a leadership problem," he said of the U.S. attitude.

According to German Economic Cooperation Minister Carl-Dieter Spranger, who gave a press breakfast on the occasion of Wolfensohn's visit, U.S. contributions to the IDA are already in arrears by \$1.6 billion.

Mr. Spranger made clear that, like most other donor countries, Germany was not prepared to make up the U.S. shortfall.

Major issues warning about single currency

LONDON (AFP) — Prime Minister John Major said Monday that the European Union must consider in full the implications of a single currency, or risk the future prosperity of Europe.

"The price of error would be too high for Europe, individually and collectively. This is something all of us, even the most enthusiastic advocates, need to consider," he said in his annual Mansion House speech before the City.

Mr. Major pointed to a number of important issues that should be addressed given that a single currency would inevitably divide the European Union into two camps.

Only Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg and the Netherlands are expected at present to be among the hard core of countries likely to launch monetary union in 1999.

"If some went ahead while others did not, the union would be divided between those countries which adopted the single currency and those which did not," Mr. Major said, adding that it was unclear how a single currency and the currencies of the rest of the union would coexist.

"How would Europe's institutions serve the interests of those countries which adopted the single currency and those who didn't? What would it mean for the Community budget? What would it mean for the single market?" he said.

The prime minister, however, stressed that Britain was keeping her options open, and that the single currency would affect the country whether or not it decided to take part.

Mr. Major also said in his speech that Britain must cut public spending and taxation, in order to compete effectively with the emerging Asian economic powerhouses.

The aim of his government was to push public spending below 40 per cent of income, and cut the burden of taxation, he said.

"Today's fastest-growing economies have a clear lesson for us. By keeping spending down they have kept taxes down. And low taxes are the best incentives for business to invest," he said.

"That is our aim. The less we take in tax, the more we can encourage enterprise," Mr. Major said.

The prime minister said that to achieve this aim, his Conservative government intended to increase the role of the private sector within the public domain.

Asian central banks unite against speculators

SINGAPORE (AFP) — Asian central banks have closed ranks by signing pacts giving themselves more liquidity to extinguish speculative attacks on currencies, but analysts said this may not deter assaults on vulnerable units.

The central banks of Australia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand Monday forged an interlocking set of bilateral repurchase agreements, known as repos, to boost their ability to intervene in the currency markets.

This followed a Singapore-Indonesia repo signing over the weekend. The Philippines hopes to pack up a similar deal with Hong Kong this month, and possibly with other Asian nations before the end of the year.

A repurchase agreement allows the owner of debt securities to borrow money by selling them to a buyer with a promise to buy them back at a fixed price.

This allows assets like U.S. treasury bills to be turned into dollars quickly, effectively giving central banks emergency reserves to thwart speculation.

"The agreements are a reflection that the central banks recognise the increasing volatility of the currency markets in emerging economies like Thailand and Indonesia," said Andy Tan, general manager of investment house MMS International in Singapore.

The agreements followed speculative assaults this year on Asian currencies, notably the Indonesian rupiah and the Thai baht, triggered by the Mexican peso crisis, which generated uncertainty over other emerging-market currencies.

Mr. Tan said the Indone-

sian and Thai currencies as well as the Malaysian ringgit could be open to attack because of widening current account deficits, while the Hong Kong dollar could suffer from the "1997 effect," although it is pegged to the U.S. dollar and backed by strong reserves.

Hong Kong's return to Chinese rule in 1997 has triggered concern about the territory's future political and economic stability.

Mr. Tan said repos will "help to a certain extent" but will not necessarily deter speculation against vulnerable currencies. "Such a possibility will always exist with or without a pact," he said.

"Ultimately the currency has to reflect its true market value," Mr. Tan added.

A Japanese banker in Hong Kong doubted whether the repos would be effective against speculation but said the agreements "are better than none at all."

Joseph Yam, chief executive of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), said after Monday's signing that the repos will allow the banks to quickly enhance their foreign exchange reserves in "times of need."

He declined to give any amounts, saying "we don't want speculators to know our cards."

For the moment, the repos are limited only to U.S. treasury bills but may be expanded to include other assets, Mr. Yam said.

Malaysian dealers Monday said the move will help curb speculation in Asian currencies, particularly the rupiah and to a lesser extent the ringgit, from coming under pressure in the wake of their deteriorating balance of payments.

"At least with the repo agreement, it will not be so costly for Bank Negara to intervene when it wants to support the ringgit and deter speculators," a dealer with BSN Bank in Kuala Lumpur said.

The Malaysian central bank said the agreement could enhance monetary cooperation in the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), which groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

The ringgit in particular, which has been under pressure due to its deteriorating current account balance, is unlikely to weaken too much with such support, "the treasury manager of a foreign bank in Kuala Lumpur said.

Malaysia's current account deficit is expected to deteriorate to 18.14 billion ringgit (\$7.26 billion) this year from 11 billion ringgit last year.

In Manila, the Central Bank of the Philippines said Tuesday that it would enter "shortly" into a repurchase agreement with five ASEAN central banks to provide Manila with a \$2.5 billion fund to defend the peso against speculative attacks.

He gave no other details, but said the agreement was signed on Monday during the signing in Hong Kong of repos between and among Australia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand.

"Governor Singson and his counterparts agreed that one way to improve cooperation among central banks in dealing with volatile capital flows was the exchange of information and liquidity enhancement in the form of bilateral repurchase agreements between central banks," the statement said.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1995

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Your ideas are most creative at this time and you can figure how best to get them in motion. Take no risks while travelling.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Plan what can be completed to improve conditions at home today and listen to the views of loved ones and express your own also.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Talk over with your associates some new interest you have in mind and gain their views. Show you are good dealing with others.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Your actions today can bring you a greater income in the days ahead, so think and act along monetary lines for you to be prosperous.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You have vision and can easily see how you can be more successful in the days ahead, make better use of your special talents.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) This is a good day to garner the data you need so that you can get ahead faster in your career. Forget details for the time being.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) A generous close friend who admires you can give backing you need to gain some cherished wish. Socialise in groups tonight.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) If you get the okay of a higher-up at this time, you can easily attain some worldly ambition which interests you about how to be successful.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Get friendly with a successful person today who can assist you to advance in life, also. Plan a trip you've wished to take.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Get business affairs extended so that you can become more successful in the days ahead. This evening, concentrate on romance.

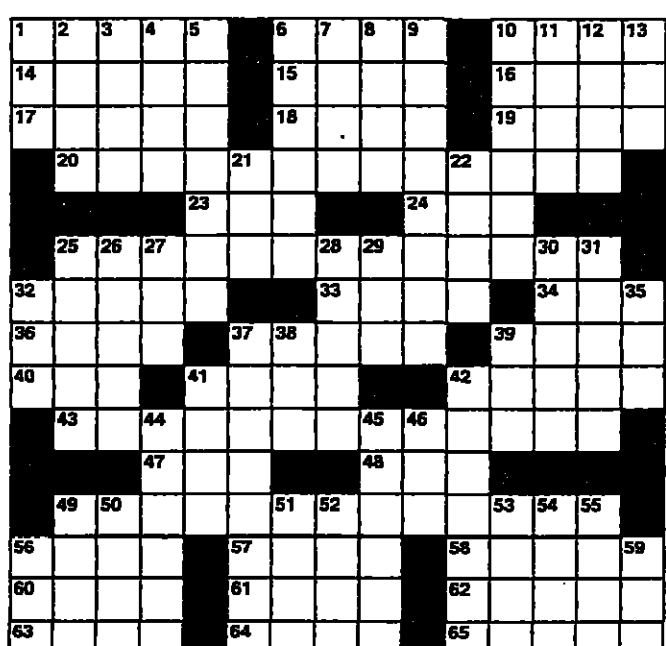
AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Join with an influential person you know today and tonight, and become more successful. Reach policy agreements with associates.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Get conditions around you today more as you want them to be. Add colour, music and art to your surroundings for there to be harmony at home.

Birthstone of November: Topaz
Tiger's Eye

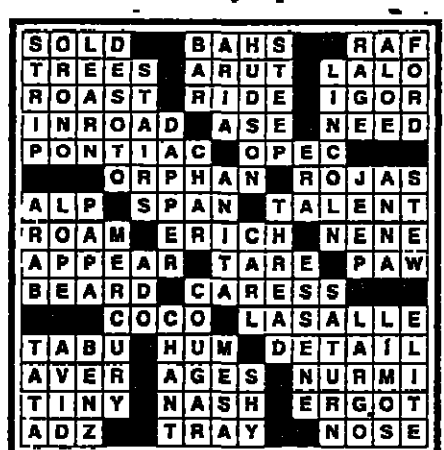
THE Daily Crossword by Kenneth Witte

- ACROSS**
- 1 Chap
 - 6 A Donahue
 - 10 Way of moving
 - 14 Darken
 - 15 — avis
 - 16 Taj Mahal site
 - 17 Precipitous
 - 18 Utah city
 - 19 Upstart
 - 20 Get out of difficulty
 - 23 No longer working; abbr.
 - 24 Greek nickname
 - 25 With — (humiliated)
 - 32 Lazy one
 - 33 Food scraps
 - 34 Logging tool
 - 36 Substance
 - 37 Cleanse
 - 39 Author Harte
 - 40 Thatcher and Major, e.g., abbr.
 - 41 Soothing agent
 - 42 Coconut meat
 - 43 Comfortable
 - 47 "Gay Nineties," e.g.
 - 48 Charged atom
 - 49 Ringwald movie (with "The")
 - 56 Crow kin
 - 57 Bridge position
 - 58 Moray fisherman
 - 60 Test type
 - 61 Singer Adams
 - 62 Marlo's dad
 - 63 Contradict
 - 64 — into (attack)
 - 65 Maternally related



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Yesterday's puzzle solved:



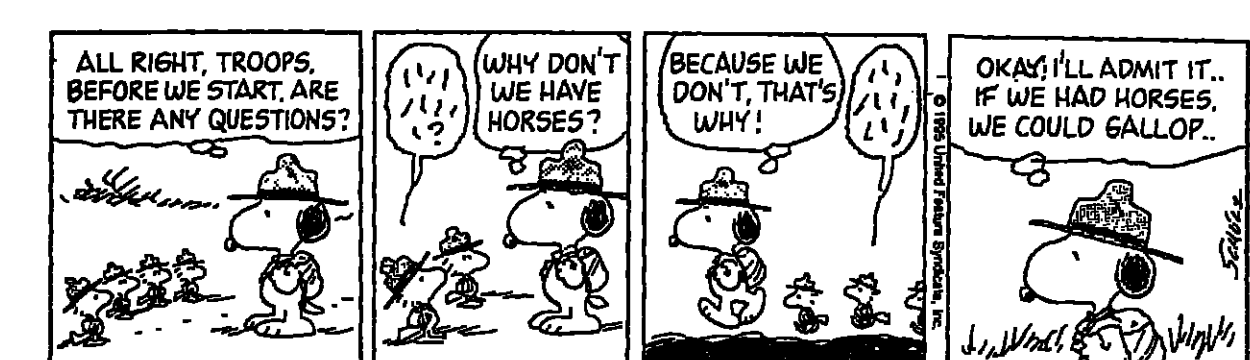
- DOWN**
- 1 Air gun ammo
 - 2 Permits
 - 3 Concert hall
 - 4 City on the Dnieper
 - 5 "The — Jones" (O'Neill play)
 - 6 Immediately
 - 7 — Krishna
 - 8 Angers
 - 9 Thrash

- 10 Federico — Lorca (Sp. poet)
- 11 Exchange premium
- 12 Word before hand or horse
- 13 Make lace
- 21 Wine: pref.
- 22 Sandy's comments
- 25 Swelling
- 26 "The — Menagerie"
- 27 Obtain
- 28 " — Rae"
- 29 Work unit
- 30 Nags
- 31 Apply oneself
- 32 Mischievous one
- 35 Greek vowel
- 37 Petite parrot
- 38 Danube city
- 39 Constrictor
- 41 Vamp Theda
- 42 Give up
- 44 Every seven days
- 45 Family member
- 46 Young child
- 49 Party pooper
- 50 Horse
- 51 Vanish
- 52 — Minor
- 53 Tit
- 54 Forearm bone
- 55 Inclination
- 56 Author Serling
- 59 Catcher's place?

THE BETTER HALF By Glasbergen



Peanuts



Arab Gulf states report rise in joint-stock firms

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Joint-stock institutions in six Arab Gulf states have sharply increased over the past decade as more companies have been set up to benefit from government incentives for the private sector, official figures have shown.

From around 250 banks and companies in 1985, the number of joint stock units in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) rose to nearly 300 in 1990 and 343 at the beginning of 1995, according to the Riyadh-based GCC secretariat.

Their paid-up capital stood at \$31.6 billion in 1995 prices, with Saudi Arabia accounting for more than half.

The figures, published in the 1995 corporate guide for the GCC, showed Saudi Arabia had 88 joint-stock banks and companies in 1995, with a capital of \$18.1 billion. Kuwait came second in terms of capital, which stood at \$5.8 billion for 41 joint-stock institutions.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has 76 institutions with a capital of \$3.4 billion while there are 75 units in Oman with a capital of \$675 million and 43 in Bahrain with \$2.16 billion. Qatar's joint-stock institutions stood at 29 with a capital of \$1.24 billion.

The institutions cover banking, insurance, real-estate, agriculture, industry, trade and services, the report showed.

It gave no figures about their market capitalisation but bankers estimated it at around \$80 billion at the end of 1994.

This compares with less than \$50 billion in 1990 and experts attributed the rise to a steady growth in share prices due to stronger performance by most trading institutions.

The report said 254 institutions trade their shares daily in the GCC bourses, where dealing averages around \$400 million a week.

"Dealing in the GCC stock markets has remained very small compared with world markets. This is because governments have a large shareholding in most trading institutions and theirs do not trade," a stockbroker said.

"Another reason is that foreigners have a limited access to the markets."

Kuwait, Oman and Bahrain allow their citizens to own a limited percentage of the shares while the remaining members still bar foreign investment in their stock markets.

The first three members have official exchanges while Qatar and the UAE are in the process of setting up

floors. Sharedealing in Saudi Arabia is conducted through the most advanced bank network in the Middle East after religious opposition forced it to shut its official exchange eight years ago.

Dealers said they expected the number of trading institutions to rise further in the coming years as governments are encouraging the private

sector to create more companies through the introduction of further incentives. This is part of reforms designed to offset the decline in oil prices.

JORDAN FINANCIAL MARKET				
HOUSING BANK CENTER - AMMAN - JORDAN				
TELEPHONE: 637171 / 607175				
OCCASIONAL MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR TUESDAY 21/11/1995				
COMPANY'S NAME	NO. OF SHARES TRADED	VALUE TRADED JD	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	CHG. %
ARAB BANK PSC	40	9440	236.500	236.000
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	1736	7092	4.470	4.430
TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	300	1205	2.400	2.410
JORDAN KIWAT BANK	605	1826	2.700	2.710
JORDAN GULF BANK	6550	9619	1.140	1.120
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	226	784	3.420	3.480
JORDAN BANK	247000	81500	3.290	3.300
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	1581	8493	5.310	5.320
REIT ELMAJMAH INVESTMENT FOR HOLDING	1581	3732	2.320	2.250
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	7088	6612	0.930	0.940
PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK	150	1850	1.250	1.260
BANKS SECTOR	268582	861529	INDEX NUMBER: 188.18	CHG. %: -0.24
GENERAL ARABIA INSURANCE	250	800	3.200	3.200
JORDAN FIRE INSURANCE	250	820	2.650	2.600
INSURANCE SECTOR	450	1320	INDEX NUMBER: 128.50	CHG. %: -0.24
JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER	4584	7282	1.600	1.590
JORDAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINE	400	1008	2.520	2.570
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT	505	909	1.010	1.020
JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	180	325	1.800	1.820
UNITED MIDDLE EAST & COMMERCIAL HOTEL	1500	3270	2.200	2.180
ARAB INTER. FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION	2400	7644	3.220	3.270
AMMAN PRIVATE UNIVERSITY	1500	1850	1.250	1.260
UNION LAND DEVELOPMENT CO.	650	644	1.000	0.910
SERVICES SECTOR	11729	22760	INDEX NUMBER: 127.31	CHG. %: -0.24
ATTACHEMENT (MATERIAL MANUFACTURING)	80	1200	1.200	1.200
JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES	7146	7146	1.500	1.500
JORDAN FERTILISER	100	275	2.750	2.750
THE ARAB FERTILISER	1161	5897	4.850	4.850
JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINERY	432	3971	9.200	9.200
THE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL	928	864	3.320	3.300
THE JORDAN WOODSTYLL	200	1480	7.400	7.400
ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING	1750	7727	4.420	4.450
JORDAN CERAMIC INDUSTRIES	400	2400	6.000	6.000
THE JORDAN WIRE MANUFACTURING	300	300	2.400	2.400
JORDAN PAPER & CARBONAD FACTORIES	82500	334125	4.080	4.050
THE PUBLIC MINING	100	280	2.800	2.800
EXPLORE & MINING	1450	391	1.240	1.270
AMMAN INDUSTRIES	130	325	3.250	3.250
AMMAN DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	1900	13226	6.950	6.860
LIVESTOCK & POULTRY	18000	24755	1.370	1.350
ARAB PAPER COMMERCE & TRADING	4750	4703	1.000	0.990
INTERNATIONAL PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	350	568	1.600	1.600
JORDAN SULPHUR-CHEMICALS	300	300	1.000	1.000
ARAB CENTRAL FERTILISER & CHEMICALS	200	370	1.850	1.850
UNIVERSAL MODERN INDUSTRIES	2000	6003	3.000	3.000
JORDAN INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES CO.	1950	1510	1.800	1.800
JORDAN NEW CABLE COMPANY	1300	1300	1.420	1.420
INTERNATIONAL TOBACCO & CIGARETTES	3500	4649	1.350	1.320
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR	157546	445104	INDEX NUMBER: 120.13	CHG. %: 0.00
GRAND TOTAL	428307	1370713	INDEX NUMBER: 153.61	CHG. %: -0.18

Business Daily Beat

A review of news from the Arabic press

Ministry gives additional financial aid to municipalities

THE MINISTRY of Municipalities and Rural Affairs and the Environment has decided to give JD 1.88 million in financial assistance to municipal councils and joint services councils in all the governorates. The minister said the amount will enable municipalities having budget deficits to continue providing services until 1996 budgets are approved. The amount is in addition to the JD 2 million which the cabinet decided to lend, without interests, to the municipalities (Al Ra'i).

Losses from road accidents amount to JD 90m

JORDAN'S FINANCIAL losses as a result of traffic accidents since the beginning of this year until the end of September are estimated at JD 90 million. The number of road accidents during the period totalled 23,292 causing 399 deaths and 9,279 injuries. Losses during 1994 amounted to about JD 100 million as a result of 26,587 accidents that caused 433 deaths and injuries to 12,516 persons (Al Aswaq).

New bank in the making

AL DUSTOUR can confirm that a group of Jordanian and Arab Gulf businessmen are on the verge of establishing a joint Jordanian-Gulf bank with a JD 100 million capital. Intensive discussions and meetings are currently underway between a committee from the founders and the Central Bank after more than a year of contacts between a group of investors seeking to set up a bank which would correspond with the aims and expectations of the Amman Economic Summit. Sources close to the founding committee said the new bank aims at extending medium or long-term financing to development projects whether they are small, medium or large-size schemes in addition to all other banking and investment operations. The bank will also be cooperating with regional and international banks in financing projects requiring a high-level funding. The founders seek Jordan needing a bank of high calibre to plug a gap of extending long-term financing especially in project financing. According to the sources, the bank, which will be based in Amman, will be more than a national bank as it will expand its branches to neighbouring countries. Founders will cover 50 per cent of the capital

and the rest will be floated for public subscription (Al Dustour).

Transport agreement with Israel not yet ready

THE TRANSPORT agreement between Jordan and Israel is still under study and no date has yet been fixed for signing it. Transport Minister Samir Qasab said. The minister indicated that the agreement includes specifying the work mechanism between the two countries in the area of road transport, railroads, sea-freight, ports, aviation, customs, joint transport and transit. The minister said the agreement and the new procedures would increase activity at the Aqaba Port and, as such, will raise the earnings of the Ports Corporation (Al Dustour).

Fuel prices will not be raised

THE GENERAL Manager of the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company denied any intention to raise prices of gas, kerosene and solar (diesel) and stressed that prices of fuel will remain the same. He said, the problem of obtaining gas cylinders is almost over as the refinery has raised the plant's manufacturing capacity of gas cylinders from 500 to 800 cylinders daily. Furthermore, imported gas cylinders have started arriving at a rate of 2,500 per shipment out of a total 15,000 cylinders awarded through a tender. People can buy these cylinders for JD 18.500 (cylinder with gas) or JD 16.500 for empty cylinders from selling centres at Al Misdar, Um Al Hiran, Marka and Jabal Amman or from Zarqa and Nuameh station (Irbid). Cylinders can also be obtained from 1,050 gas distributors around the country (Al Dustour).

French protocol approved

Informed government sources said that the new protocol between Jordan and France has been approved and finalised. The value of the protocol, the sources said, amounts to 100 million French francs which will be used in infrastructure, water and other development projects. Part of the protocol will be in the form of soft loans while the rest will be in the form of assistance and grants, the sources added. France is considered one of the major creditors to Jordan with a total export and bilateral loans amounting to \$700 million. Amman is negotiating with Paris to relieve the Kingdom of some of its external debt, through various forms, but nothing specific has come out of the talks due to highly demanding French terms (Al Ra'i).

Financial Markets				
In cooperation with Cairo Amman Bank				
U.S. Dollar in International Markets				
Currency	Monday 20/11/95	Tuesday 21/11/95	Close	Open
Sterling Pound	1.5548	1.5547	1.5547	1.5547
Deutsche Mark	1.4075	1.4080	1.4080	1.4080
Swiss Franc	1.1550	1.1573	1.1573	1.1573
French Franc	4.8542	4.8552	4.8552	4.8552
Japanese Yen	101.55	101.40	101.40	101.40
European Currency Unit	1.3020	1.3010	1.3010	1.3010

Eurocurrency Interest Rates				
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.54	5.59	5.43	5.37
Sterling Pound	6.50	6.43	6.37	6.37
Deutsche Mark	3.75	3.68	3.68	3.68
Swiss Franc	1.81	1.75	1.68	1.62
French Franc	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.12
Japanese Yen	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.25
European Currency Unit	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28

Precious Metals				
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz
Gold	387.05	7.50	Silver	5.37

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Unit				
Currency	Buy	Offer	Buy	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.708	0.710	0.708	0.710
Sterling Pound	1.3998	1.4053	1.3998	1.4053
Deutsche Mark	0.5075	0.5050	0.5075	0.5050
Swiss Franc	0.6215	0.6246	0.6215	0.6246
French Franc	0.1457	0.1464	0.1457	0.1464
Japanese Yen	0.0074	0.0099	0.0074	0.0099
Dutch Guilder	0.3487	0.3500	0.3487	0.3500
Swedish Krona	---	---	---	---
Italian Lira	0.0444	0.0446	0.0444	0.0446
Belgian Franc	---	---	---	---

Other Currencies				
Currency	Buy	Offer	Buy	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.6650	1.6750	1.6650	1.6750
Lebanese Lira	0.043565	0.043573	0.043565	0.043573
Saudi Riyal	0.1245	0.1266	0.1245	0.1266
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3070	2.3670	2.3070	2.3670
Qatar Riyal	0.1932	0.1945	0.1932	0.1945
Egyptian Pound	0.2100	0.2200	0.2100	0.2200
Omani Riyal	1.8330	1.8410	1.8330	1.8410
UAE Dirham	0.1922	0.1933	0.1922	0.1933
Greek Drachma	0.2465	0.3085	0.2465	0.3085
Cypriot Pound	1.5345	1.5485	1.5345	1.5485

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One U.S. dollar	1.3514/24	Canadian dollar	1.4090/00
	1.4090/00	Deutchmarks	1.5782/92
	1.5782/92	Dutch guilders	1.1386/96
	1.1386/96	Swiss francs	28.97/01
	28.97/01	Belgian francs	4.8586/36
	4.8586/36	French francs	1591.02/5
	1591.02/5	Italian lire	101.42/52
	101.42/52	Japanese yen	6.5250/50
	6.5250/50	Swedish crowns	6.2260/10
	6.2260/10	Norwegian crowns	5.4583/83
	5.4583/83	Danish crowns	6.2260/10
	6.2260/10	Singapore dollars	0.7445/55
	0.7445/55	Australian dollars	7.7330/40
	7.7330/40	Hong Kong dollars	7.7330/40
One sterling	\$1.5578/88		
Gold (ounce)	\$386.30/386.80		

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no other details. The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand. The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand. The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand.

OSCOPE. The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand. The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand.

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(May 21 to June 21) The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand. The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand.

(June 21 to July 21) The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand. The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand.

(July 21 to August 21) The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand. The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand.

(August 21 to September 21) The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand. The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand.

(September 21 to October 21) The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand. The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand.

(October 21 to November 21) The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand. The agreement was signed during the long Kong of 1991 and among the 100,000 people in the Philippines and Thailand.

Arab Clubs Table Tennis Championship

Egypt's Ahli retain women's title

By Aileen Bannayan
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Egypt's Ahli Club Tuesday retained the women's title at the 5th Arab Clubs Table Tennis Championship after overcoming rivals Benzart of Tunisia 3-1 in the final match.

The title was Ahli's fourth consecutive crown in the championship they have dominated since 1992. Computriots Al Zamelek came in second on points while Benzart finished third.

Benzart's team, led by Africa's No. 2 Sonia Twenty, put up a big fight and received wide applause from attending fans for their beautiful displays. Ahli won the first singles match by Jihan Sayyed 21-6, 21-19 over Afaf Nuwwar. Tunisia's Sonia Twenty won the next singles match 21-15, 21-12 over Basant Othman. The doubles could have been won either way, but Ahli had advantage with cool nerves as Tunisia's players committed unforced errors with their service.

Egypt's Rania Jamal and Jihan Sayyed beat Twenty and Nuwwar 21-13, 21-15 to lead 2-1. When the tie was left for the deciding singles match Jihan Sayyed capped her team's victory but not before Sonia Twenty dazzled fans with fantastic returns despite losing 21-16, 21-18.

Jordan Table Tennis Federation (JTTF) Chairman Dr. Ismat Kurdi handed the first place trophy to four time champions Al Ahli while Zamelek took silver and Benzart bronze. Jordan's Amman Club came in fourth, Al Orthodoxy fifth and Lebanon's Homentmen sixth.

Egyptian clubs to face off in men's final

MEN'S TITLEHOLDERS Al Ahli of Egypt reached the final of the men's competition after overcoming Qatar's Al Ahli 3-0 while compatriots Al Zamelek beat Saudi Arabia's Al Ahli with the same result.

Meanwhile, in matches deciding 5-8th places Jordan's Al Jazireh beat compatriots Al Orthodoxy 3-2 while Lebanon's Al Ma'ni beat Kuwait's Al Jahra 3-2.

Al Jazireh will now face Al Ma'ni Wednesday for 5th and 6th places while Al Orthodoxy face Al Jahra for 7th and 8th.

The men's final will be played today at the Sports Palace at 4 p.m.

Earlier in the day, Al Zamelek had beaten Jordan's Al Orthodoxy 3-0 while Amman overcame Homentmen 3-1. The Lebanese team's winning match was secured through the tournament's youngest player, 13-year-old Lisa Barikyan, who beat top ranked Amini Tufaha of Amman Club 21-14, 20-21, 21-17.

Barikyan and her team were congratulated by officials of other delegations and widely applauded for her performance in her first win at an Arab championships.

Barikyan was to receive the tournament's most promising player award by the JTTF in a ceremony Tuesday evening.

Table tennis doyen sees bright future for Lebanon

By Aileen Bannayan
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Walking around the Sports Palace court these days one is surrounded by table tennis experts: champions of the game or top officials of Arab table tennis.

The Lebanese delegation at the championship includes two officials who have been part of the game for the past fifty years.

Spiro Abu Rjeileh, a guest of the Jordan Table Tennis Federation, has witnessed the development of the game on the Arab and international levels since 1941.

He last represented Lebanon as a player in the 1954 world championship. Since then, he has been an official of the game in 12 international cham-

pionships in his capacity as general secretary of the Lebanese Federation from 1964-1994.

Mr. Abu Rjeileh was also a member of the International Table Tennis Federation between 1957 and 1981 and was awarded the prestigious Golden Award.

"International table tennis has made great strides, whether in technical aspects of the game or the equipment used," Mr. Abu Rjeileh told the Jordan Times. "Table tennis has also become a very popular sport because of television. Matches are now televised live and people are more involved with the game. It is definitely on the right track," he added.

As to the level of Lebanese table tennis, Mr. Abu Rjeileh said it was very much affected by the civil

war which had disrupted all aspects of life. "Sports in general were greatly affected and we lost a generation of excellent athletes. But we are starting all over again. Just give us two years time. We will be back," he asserted.

"We now have a generation of serious young players. They are our hope for the future," he said, citing the example of Lebanon's 13-year-old Lisa Barikyan of the Homentmen Club who displayed the capabilities of a future champion when she beat Jordan's Amini Tufaha on the final day of the women's competition Tuesday (see separate story).

The president of the Lebanese Federation, George Hani, echoed the same view.

"Athletes did not train properly during the war.

But clubs are showing a serious interest and we have future champions on the way," he said.

Mr. Hani explained that a record number of 300 athletes participated in the 1995 Lebanon championship which was won by Al Riyadi and Homentmen clubs.

"We have 10,000 players representing 87 clubs registered with the Lebanese Federation."

Mr. Hani said table tennis was among 22 sports included in the upcoming Arab games which will be held in Beirut Sept. 8-22 1996.

The president of the Lebanese Federation was his country's champion in 1952 and represented his country in three world championships since the early fifties.

British officials dismiss Akabusi's allegations

LONDON (R) — Kriss Akabusi of Britain, the former European 400 metres hurdle champion, has been accused of "vague innuendo" after claiming that officials had turned a blind eye to top athletes taking performance-enhancing drugs.

Akabusi, who also won an Olympic bronze medal in 1992 and a gold in the 1991 World Championships relay, makes the allegations in a book published this week.

Akabusi said in a television interview on Monday that athletes around the world had deliberately not been tested or had been told in advance that they were going to be.

He mentioned no names apart from Ben Johnson, who was stripped of his Olympic 100 metres gold in Seoul in 1988 for taking steroids and banned for life in 1992 after another positive test.

"Ben Johnson was an embarrassment for the sport," Akabusi said in the interview with the BBC.

"He got caught, but I'm sure he was not on his own. How others didn't get caught I don't know."

"I didn't cheat, but in my time there were people who were able to say to people in authority or looking after top meetings 'I am capable of breaking a world record, but I don't want any form of embarrassment.'"

Akabusi questioned whether young athletes should be blamed if they had the opportunity to "live by the same philosophy."

His claims come three weeks after Frank Dick was accused of turning a blind eye to athletes taking steroids while he was Britain's director of coaching.

Dick, who resigned last year after 14 years in the job, has issued a writ for libel and slander against the Sunday Times and former international sprinter Drew McMaster.

Tony Ward, spokesman for the British Athletic Federation said: "I can understand why Kriss is doing this — to sell his book."

Graf to play in Australian Open

SYDNEY (R) — World No. 1 Steffi Graf is a definite starter for January's Australian Open, setting the stage for a dream final against Monica Seles and a chance for the German to clinch a non-calendar year Grand Slam, organisers said on Tuesday.

Graf missed this year's open with a hamstring injury but came back to win the remaining three Grand Slam events of 1995 — the French Open, Wimbledon and the U.S. Open.

She crowned what she considers the best year of her career with victory over Anke Huber in this week's WTA Tour championships in New York.

Graf's formal entry, along with that of compatriot Huber, America's Mary Joe Fernandez and Croatian teenager Iva Majoli, follows the dropping of boycott threats by leading women players over prize money.

Australian Open officials had announced last month that women would not receive the same money as the men next year, with the exception of the finalists.

The row was settled last week after talks between the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) and Australian tennis officials in New York.

Seles, whom Graf defeated at Flushing Meadows in the American's comeback

Grand Slam, has already indicated she will play in the Australian Open, organisers said.

Seles' last Grand Slam triumph was in Melbourne at Flinders Park in 1993 shortly before an on-court stabbing in Hamburg forced her out of tennis for more than two years.

Graf is officially co-ranked number one with Seles, who was given the slot on her return to tennis with a triumph at the Canadian Open last August.

Graf, who finished the 1995 tour 138 points ahead of number two Conchita Martinez of Spain, had a tremendous year despite injuries and personal problems. She won eight of the

10 tournaments she entered, compiling a 44-2 match record.

Tournament director Paul McNamee said entries were now flooding in from other top women players but officials were especially happy with the entry from Graf.

"We are particularly pleased to have Steffi's formal entry, as she has a legion of fans in Australia," McNamee said.

The two-week open starts at the Flinders Park Tennis Centre on January 15.

Germany's Steffi Graf retained her world number one ranking on Monday following her victory on Sunday in the WTA Tour Championships.

	393.25 pts
1. Steffi Graf (Ger)	points to be decided
2. Monica Seles (USA)	255.60
3. Conchita Martinez (Spa)	228.77
4. Arantxa Sanchez (Spa)	165.13
5. Kimiko Date (Jpn)	159.83
6. Mary Pierce (Fra)	149.03
7. Magdalena Maleeva (Bul)	147.52
8. Gabriela Sabatini (Arg)	136.66
9. Iva Majoli (Cro)	135.31
10. Anke Huber (Ger)	129.64
11. Jana Novotna (Cze)	125.59
12. Lindsay Davenport (USA)	112.06
13. Brenda Schultz (Ned)	99.94
14. Natacha Zvereva (Bel)	93.70
15. Chanda Rubin (USA)	91.63
16. Martina Hingis (Svi)	70.54
17. Naoko Sawamatsu (Jpn)	69.21
18. Amy Frazier (USA)	66.17
19. Amanda Coetzer (Rsa)	62.28
20. Lisa Raymond (USA)	59.81



President of Real Madrid Ramon Mendoza Nov. 20. Mendoza announced his resignation waves goodbye at the end of a press conference after 11 years as president (AFP photo)

Real Madrid president resigns

MADRID (R) — Real Madrid Chairman Ramon Mendoza confirmed he was resigning on Monday after more than 10 years in charge.

"I'm leaving sad but contented," Mendoza, 68, told a news conference after meeting the board of directors.

The club's deputy chairman Lorenzo Sanz was unanimously elected the new chairman, said Jose Maria Stampa Casas, secretary of the board of directors.

The club would hold a news conference to announce its plans for the future, Stampa Casas added.

Mendoza had announced the date of his departure last Tuesday, although he had previously let it be known that he intended to quit.

He said he was leaving because of internal dissent at the club and denied that he

had been forced out.

"Now I don't care about anything, I'm sick of harassment and of small opportunists," Mendoza said.

"No-one forced me out of anywhere. I left fed up, because sometimes pacifying Real Madrid is like ploughing in the sea, a useless task," he added.

Real Madrid won six league championships, two Spanish cups and two UEFA Cups during Mendoza's rule but the club's persistent financial problems put him under increasing pressure to leave.

The crisis came to a head when Mendoza's accounts were rejected by a meeting of the board last month.

Mendoza said he would dedicate himself to writing a book.

"If I left the club with three

years and four months of my mandate left, I will never again present myself as candidate for the chairmanship of Madrid," Mendoza said. "It defies all logic."

He said the last few days had been hard for him. "I would have liked to leave on tiptoes, because it's been tough for me. You need more courage to abandon power than to take it," he said.

Mendoza added that he had always had a good relationship with the players. "The players have shown me great fondness. I'm convinced that they like me very much," he said.

Real's star striker Raul Gonzalez said Mendoza had given him all for the club.

"He's always behaved very well to me and I have to thank him for it," said Paul. "I wish him luck."

Magic still perfect in Magic Kingdom

ORLANDO (R) — There's no place like home for the Orlando Magic, even without injured superstar centre Shaquille O'Neal.

Dennis Scott scored 13 of his 27 points in the fourth quarter and Penny Hardaway added 29 points as the Magic held off the Golden State Warriors 101-95 on Monday to raise their record to a perfect 7-0 at the Magic Kingdom this season.

The Magic have now won 14 consecutive regular-season home games, dating to March 3 of last season.

The victory moved Orlando into a tie for first place in the Atlantic Division with the New York Knicks at 8-2.

Chris Mullin led Golden State with 23 points, but he was held scoreless in the fourth quarter as the Warriors lost for the fourth time in five games and fell to 0-4 on the road.

Orlando was also forced to do without the services of forward Horace Grant, who suffered a knee injury Saturday in Miami. But their backcourt tandem picked up the slack.

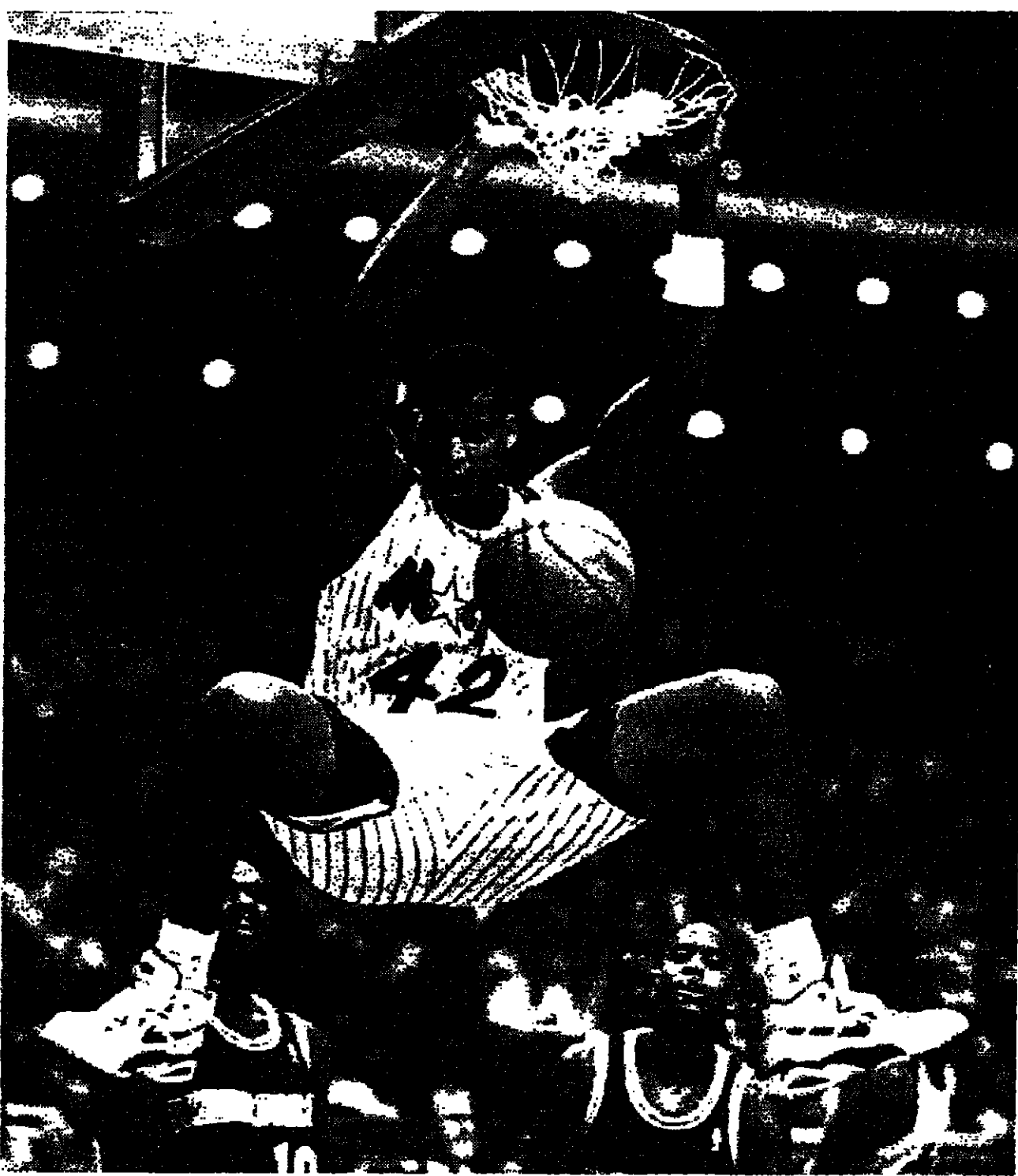
Nick Anderson scored 20 points and teamed with Penny Hardaway to outscore Golden State's starting backcourt of Tim Hardaway and Latrell Sprewell, 49-8.

Tim Hardaway finished 3-of-15 from the field, including 0-for-7 from three-point range, but did hand out 13 assists.

In addition to poor shooting, the Warriors helped the Magic's cause by committing 23 turnovers that led to 28 points for Orlando.

In Boston, dismal foul shooting by the Celtics helped the Houston rockets gain their fifth consecutive victory.

Hakeem Olajuwon scored 24 points and Clyde Drexler



Orlando Magic forward David Vaughan dunks against the Golden State Warriors as defenders Tim Hardaway (lower L) and B.J. Armstrong look on, during first half action

added 18 to lead the Rockets to a 98-93 win as Boston sank just 2-of-12 from the free-throw line in the fourth quarter and hit a miserable 9-of-22 for the game.

Robert Horry chipped in 16 points and grabbed 15 rebounds for Houston (8-1), which shot 28-of-53 from the line.

"As long as we're close coming down the stretch, we feel good because we have Hakeem to go to," Horry said.

November 20. The NBA contest was played in the Orlando Arena (Reuters photo).

NBA RESULTS

Houston	98	Boston	93
Orlando	101	Golden State	95
Utah	105	New Jersey	79
Portland	113	LA Clippers	94

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Chen wins weightlifting gold

GUANGZHOU, China (R) — A superb performance in the snatch section enabled Taiwanese Chen Jun-Lien to win the women's 64-kg category event comfortably on Tuesday at the World Weightlifting Championships. Chen lifted 97.5 kg in the snatch to take a clear lead over her closest rival Hungarian Erzebet Markus who managed only 92.5 kg. Markus ended sixth overall after strong performances by Bulgaria's Gergana Kirilova, South Korea's Choi Eun-Ja and Greece's Maria Christoforidi in the clean and jerk section.

Tapie immunity lifted

PARIS (AFP) — The French National Assembly on Tuesday lifted the parliamentary immunity of bankrupt politician Bernard Tapie, parliamentary speaker Philippe Seguin announced. Seguin specified that, under an order approved by an Assembly committee, the former minister could be required to observe bail conditions but could not be held in custody. The decision, which did not require a full parliamentary vote, is in connection with alleged corruption involving funds of his former football club Olympique de Marseille. Marseille judge Pierre Philippon had requested the order. He also asked that Tapie's immunity at the Strasbourg-based European Parliament be lifted to facilitate his inquiries. It is the fourth time Tapie's immunity has been lifted: This has occurred twice

before, twice in connection with alleged irregularities over his yacht the Phoece, and alleged fraud in the case of his weight machine firm Testut.

Referees reject contract offer

NEW YORK (R) — Representatives of the National Basketball Referees Association have rejected the National Basketball Association's offer for a new contract and refused to put the proposal to a vote of its membership. The union's rejection was in a letter delivered to the NBA offices last Friday. The NBA last Thursday gave the union of the locked-out referees with a proposal the league said offered a 10 per cent increase over five years and gives officials a starting salary of \$85,000, with top-level officials receiving \$261,000 this season.

Aston Villa move up to 3rd

LONDON (R) — In-form Tommy Johnson claimed his third goal in three games to take Aston Villa up to third spot in the English Premier League on Monday. The striker finished off good work by Dwight Yorke and Ian Taylor to beat goalkeeper Dave Beasant victory over Southampton in 13 years. But Villa wasted chances to increase the scoreline from 1-0 when both Yugoslav striker Savo Milosevic and Yorke missed clear goals. The win put Villa only two points behind second-placed Manchester United in the league.

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Mendoza said.
"I tried to concen-
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and play like I did
last week," said Gr-
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Sports

Europe set for clash of the titans

PARIS (AFP) — After two months of beating no-hopers, European Cup favourites Ajax and Juventus face some first-class opponents in Real Madrid and Borussia Dortmund on Wednesday night.

This season's Champions League has laid bare the gulf in talent between Europe's elite and the rest, with the British clubs definitely among the rest.

Holders Ajax, Amsterdam and Real Madrid have respectively crushed Ferencvaros 5-1 and 6-1, and have comfortably beaten Grasshoppers Zurich in their Group D matches so far.

The Spaniards are hoping for revenge for their 1-0 defeat in Amsterdam, and will doubtless be buoyed by their victory over Spanish title chasers Atletico Madrid in last Saturday's capital derby.

Ajax coach Louis Van Gaal has two men out through injury. Brazilian defender Marcio Santos, who has Achilles tendon trouble, and striker Nordin Wooter, who has a thigh strain.

Juventus have also got back to their winning ways after a poor run in the Serie A, beating Fiorentina 1-0 on Sunday.

A repeat of the previous 3-1 away victory over Dortmund in Group C would be just the ticket — preserving the Italians' 100 per cent record of four wins in four and giving them another valuable morale boost.

Striker Fabrizio Ravanelli, who missed the game against Fiorentina, remains unavailable through injury.

The bad news for Juventus is that Dortmund are on a roll that has seen them soar to the top of the Bundesliga. They romped home 4-1 against SC Karlsruhe at the weekend and are unbeaten in 11 league matches.

Though beaten only once so far, two frustrating draws has meant that Dortmund are a full seven points behind Juventus. They should nevertheless qualify for the quarter-finals.

The only other side with a 100 per cent record, Spartak

Brazil top soccer standings

ZURICH (AFP) — Latest FIFA rankings on Tuesday:

1. Brazil	68.28pts
2. Germany	61.65
3. Spain	61.02
4. Italy	60.53
5. Russia	58.39
6. Norway	57.98
7. Argentina	56.77
8. Denmark	56.26
9. France	56.14
10. Holland	56.00
11. Sweden	55.36
12. Romania	55.14
13. Mexico	55.14
14. Bulgaria	54.47
15. Switzerland	54.25
16. Portugal	54.19
17. Colombia	53.23
18. Czech Republic	52.72
19. USA	51.19
20. England	50.02



Reigning Olympic figure skating champion Sergei Grinkov collapsed and died of a heart attack while lifting his wife, Yekaterina Gordeyeva (left), in practice, CBS News re-

Olympic champion dies at practice

LAKE PLACID, New York (R) — Olympic and world figure skating champion Sergei Grinkov collapsed and died of an apparent heart attack while attempting to lift his wife in practice on Monday, a spokesman for the skaters said.

Grinkov, 28, and his wife, Ekaterina Gordeeva, 24, who brought the pairs figure skating to new artistic and athletic heights in recent years with their powerful lifts and stunning throws, had been practicing for the professional Stars on Ice tour, which had been scheduled for an exhibition on Saturday in Lake Placid.

Grinkov was taken to Adirondack Medical Centre where he was pronounced dead an hour later at 12:28 p.m. (10:28 GMT), said Linda Dorez, a spokesman for the Stars on Ice tour.

Chandler Ralph, a spokesman for the hospital said an autopsy would be performed.

Grinkov and his wife won the Olympic pairs gold medal in 1988 and 1994. They also won four World Championships, two European titles and the USSR national championships as amateurs.

They turned professional in 1990 and applied for reinstatement as amateurs before the Lillehammer Olympics in 1994.

They won the gold medal again in a showdown, with fellow Russians Natalia Mishkutenok and Artur Dmitriev, the 1992 Olympic champions.

Grinkov and his wife were married in 1991 and lived with their daughter, Daria, in homes in Simsbury, Connecticut, and Moscow.

Reigning NFL champions crash Miami

MIAMI, Florida (AFP) — Elvis Grbac threw for a career-high 382 yards and four touchdowns, offsetting a record-tying performance by Dan Marino to lift reigning American football champion San Francisco past Miami 44-20 here Monday.

Jerry Rice and Brent Jones each caught two touchdown passes, but it was Grbac's poise that the difference for the 49ers, who have routed Dallas and Miami after embarrassing losses to sub-par New Orleans and Carolina.

"I tried to concentrate and go out and play like I did last week," said Grbac, a fill-in for injured starter Steve Young. "Tonight's performance helped me establish that I could put two good performances back-to-back."

McRae has Sainz in his sights

CHESTER (AFP) — The RAC Rally was heading for a dramatic climax on Tuesday as Colin McRae continued to pile the pressure on his World Championship rival and Subaru team-mate Carlos Sainz.

The 27-year-old Scot won five of the first six stages on the penultimate day to slash his overnight deficit from 39 seconds to just five.

McRae must finish ahead of the Spaniard when the race ends in here on Wednesday if he is to become Britain's first World Rally Champion.

The Scotsman got off to a flying start as the rally's entry into Wales for the first time was met with fierce rain that left the stages even more daunting than usual.

But McRae, who had overcome two punctures that threatened to derail his title hopes on Monday, shrugged off the conditions with a series of lightning-fast drives.

McRae sliced the double world champion's lead by 10 seconds on the first leg at Dyfnant, before reducing it by another eight seconds at Hafren Sweet Lamb.

Sainz hit back on the hill-hugging stage at Brechfa which he won by two seconds — the first time he had finished ahead of his rival in eight special stages.

But there was no holding

the Scot as Sainz's lead plunged by 12 seconds on the 22.82-mile course at Trawcoed.

Sainz was much closer on special stage 19 at Crychan, when McRae picked up a solitary second with a time of 10mins 48secs for the near 11-mile test.

McRae cut the deficit to single figures when he reeled off another special stage victory soon after.

He made it five fastest times out of a possible six in Wales so far by clocking five minutes 42 seconds on the short five-and-a-half mile route at Cefn as the drivers headed back towards Chester.

Subaru are already assured of winning the drivers' championship through McRae or Sainz, but their hopes of the manufacturers' title were also given a major boost.

Sweden's Kenneth Eriksson, lying third for title leads Mitsubishi, went out of the rally when he ditched the car on stage 18, setting up a potential Subaru clean sweep with Richard Burns moving to third.

Eriksson lost control at a right-hand hairpin and went straight into a Welsh stream, with co-driver Staffan Parmander reporting: "We are stuck in a very big hole. Too deep to get out."

Botafogo stay top in Brazilian soccer

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazil's leading marksman Tulio struck again at the weekend, this time against the club that launched his career, to keep Botafogo top of their group in the second stage of the Brazilian championship.

Tulio's second half goal was his 19th in 19 games in the competition and gave Botafogo a 1-0 win away to Goias, whose hopes of a semifinal place suffered a serious knock.

But Tulio, who turned professional with Goias, will miss Wednesday's game at home to Bahia after receiving a third yellow card.

Botafogo stay top of Group A and are four points ahead of defending champions Palmeiras, who beat Uniao Sao Joao 3-0, and Corinthians, who lost by the same score away to Santos.

Each team has four games to play. Goias slumped to fourth in Group B.

Gremio, the South American champions, are second in Group A but have played all their games to allow them time to train for next week's match with European Champions Ajax Amsterdam in Tokyo for the unofficial world club championship.

NFL STANDINGS										
AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE										
Eastern Division										
	W	L	T	PF	PA					
Buffalo	8	3	0	223	198					
Miami	6	5	0	275	225					
Indianapolis	6	5	0	210	210					
New England	4	7	0	177	242					
NY Jets	2	9	0	163	285					
Central Division										
Pittsburgh	7	4	0	277	242					
Cincinnati	4	7	0	269	277					
Cleveland	4	7	0	201	244					
Houston	4	7	0	231	223					
Jacksonville	3	8	0	184	250					
Western Division										
Kansas City	10	1	0	265	161					
Oakland	8	3	0	271	187					
Denver	6	5	0	249	201					
Seattle	5	6	0	249	273					
San Diego	4	7	0	196	238					
NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE										
Eastern Division										
Dallas	9	2	0	319	202					
Philadelphia	7	4	0	235	248					
Washington	3	8	0	227	268					
Arizona	3	8	0	171	289					
NY Giants	3	8	0	199	246					
Central Division										
Green Bay	7	4	0	277	236					
Chicago	6	5	0	297	269					
Minnesota	6	5	0	262	249					
Tampa Bay	6	5	0	175	191					
Detroit	5	6	0	260	264					
Western Division										
San Francisco	7	4	0	294	160					
Atlanta	7	4	0	241	226					
St. Louis	6	5	0	201	236					
Carolina	5	6	0	202	213					
New Orleans	4	7	0	205	252					

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMARA HERSH
GOREN Bridge Media Services, Inc.

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q. 1 - As South, vulnerable, you hold:
473 QJ62 QJ553 A4763
The bidding has proceeded:
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1 A Pass 1 NT Pass
3 0 Pass 7
What action do you take?
A - Partner's jump shift is forcing, so a pass is out of the question. To bid three no trump with a tenuous stopper in one minor and only one in the other courts trouble. The solution is a false preference to three spades, a warning bid to see what partner does next.

Q. 2 - As South, vulnerable, you hold:
AKQ82 QKJ1074 QA A82
The bidding has proceeded:
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1 A Pass 1 NT Pass
3 0 Pass 3 A Pass
7
What do you bid now?
A - If you've gleaned anything from the previous example, it's that partner might have taken a preference with only two spades. Therefore, you should complete the description of your hand by bidding four hearts.

Q. 3 - East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
AKJ54 QAK QJ109 A4884
The bidding has proceeded:
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
1 0 Pass 2 0 Pass 7
What action do you take?
A - Your hand is far from ideal with so much strength in the enemy suit, but if you elect to pass with such a good hand, the opponents will steal you blind, since partner cannot

have enough to balance. Double for takeout.

Q. 4 - Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
AKQ4 QK852 Q10 AQ1053
The bidding has proceeded:
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1 A Pass 1 NT Pass
3 0 Pass 7
What do you bid now?
A - You are torn between bidding your scrappily five-card major or showing your excellent stoppers in the enemy suit with a jump to two no trump. However, your singleton diamond sways the decision to a suit-oriented contract, so test the waters with two hearts.

Q. 5 - As South, vulnerable, you hold:
AK95 QAK Q1052 Q103 QJ2 48
What is your opening bid?
A - This hand is too strong for a three-level preempt in first seat. Since prospects of your talking eight tricks are excellent, we consider it a choice between one spade and four spades. Because of a lack of defensive values outside your long suit, we would opt for the four-spade preempt.

Q. 6 - As South, vulnerable, you hold:
AK95 QAK Q1052 Q103 QJ2 48
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one spade. What action do you take?
A - We would rule out an overall of two clubs — we try to avoid bidding such a porous five-card suit at the two-level, if possible. That leaves the choice between one no trump and pass, and the fifth club just tilts our decision to one no trump.

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2.00 ONLY
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What's Under Your Plate?



November 1st-30th

For this month only, Bukhara, El Pasha and Mama Juanita are having a one of a kind special. While having a meal at these restaurants, check for a sticker under your plate. If you are lucky you will win a complimentary drink or the course served on top of the plate, depending on the color of the sticker.
For reservations call 641361 ext.5
Uniquely Inter-Continental

TODAY AT	CINEMA TEL: 634144	CINEMA TEL: 699238	CINEMA TEL: 677420	AMMOUN THEATRE TEL: 618274 · 618275	Nabil & Hisham's Theatre TEL: 625155
	PHILADELPHIA	PLAZA	CONCORD		
	Kevin Costner in WATERWORLD Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:45	Nadia Al Jundi, Farouq Fishawi and Mahmoud Hamideh in A Woman Who shook the Throne of Egypt (Arabic) Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30	CONCORD "1" Nadia Al Jundi, Farouq Fishawi and Mahmoud Hamideh ...in A Woman Who shook the Throne of Egypt Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6, 8:15, 10:30 CONCORD "2" Sylvester Stallone...in ASSASSINS Shows: 3:30, 6, 8:15, 10:15	MUSA HIJAZIN "Sumaa" in Hi Citizen daily at 8:30 p.m. Written & directed by Mohammad Shawaqfeh	In view of the travel of the actors abroad the theatre is closed until further notice

Afghan troops retreat from east Kabul posts

KABUL (AFP) — Afghan government troops lost two key positions east of Kabul to the Taliban militia early Tuesday, as fierce fighting for control of the area entered its sixth day, the defence ministry said here.

"We made a tactical retreat from Chakari and Khurd Kabul, but are still maintaining other important posts in the area," a spokesman said.

The villages of Chakari and Khurd Kabul — 25 kilometres southeast of the Afghan capital — were originally seized by the Taliban in a major attack on the area late Thursday, but the rebels were pushed out of most of the captured zone in a government counter-offensive on Saturday.

Intense battles have continued for control of hills and military posts overlooking the villages ever since, culminating in Tuesday's state withdrawal from the hamlets.

The retreat was the second setback for government in two days.

On Monday, the Islamic rebels overran a strategically important military post near Chakari which had been seized in heavy fighting on Saturday by state troops.

But despite the latest battlefield reversal, the govern-

ment of President Burhanuddin Rabbani is confident its troops have not lost the fight for the eastern flank of the besieged city.

"The Taliban victory has not brought them significantly closer to Kabul and does not undermine in any major way our imminent plans to drive them back," a defence ministry source said.

"This may be a tactical victory, but strategically the Taliban have still failed in their goal of capturing the eastern defence lines of Kabul, the aim of their offensive last week," he added.

The Taliban, who sprang up from the Koranic schools of Pakistan and southern Afghanistan last year, have vowed to topple Mr. Rabbani's three-year-old government and to install Islamic law across the country.

The religious students aim in launching their attack Thursday was to capture the eastern defences of Kabul in a bid to broaden their month-old siege on the city, which is already hemmed in on three major fronts by the Taliban, defence and military officials have said.

Foreign observers said the rebels probably now hold around four kilometres of the eight kilometres they seized in their initial assault.

although the militia has claimed to hold a far greater area, including a village which still remains under state control, an AFP correspondent saw.

The government and the Taliban continued to trade heavy missile, artillery and rocket fire southeast of Kabul Tuesday, although analysts here said both sides were probably exhausted following five and half days of solid fighting.

Other military sources, meanwhile, said the government was already preparing another counter-attack to recapture the ground lost on Tuesday.

The defence ministry said that despite the setback for the government, its troops had managed to wrest back control of a key post from the Taliban.

Ten Taliban were killed when state soldiers retook a strategic hill overlooking a valley leading to the new government defence line at the village of Band-i-Ghazi, also 25 kilometres from the capital, it said.

Four government troops were killed and another four wounded in the latest tug-of-war over a few tiny village set among the arid and inhospitable hills of this country wracked by 16 years of war.

Israeli police free two held in killing of Rabin

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli police on Tuesday freed two more of the nine people detained in connection with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's assassination.

"They are under various suspicions which sort of changed as the investigation went on," police spokesman Eric Bar-Chen said without elaborating.

He said the two men, Ohad Skornik and Michael Epstein — both 23 — were freed on bail to house arrest until next Monday.

"It is up to the district attorney to make the final determination," Mr. Bar-Chen said.

Last week Avishai Raviv, leader of the shadowy militant Jewish group Eyal, was released on bail. Media reports said he had worked for at least two years as an informer for Israel's Shin Bet secret police.

Assassin Yigal Amir, a 25-year-old religious Jew, said he acted alone when he gunned down Mr. Rabin after a Tel Aviv peace rally in Nov.

4. But police have arrested at least nine people in connection with the case.

The Maariv newspaper said Tuesday that all the Shin Bet bodyguards assigned to Mr. Rabin on the fatal night — at least six — had been suspended from duty. The report could not be immediately confirmed.

Mr. Bar-Chen said Mr. Skornik and Mr. Epstein were ordered not to leave Israel, barred from the West Bank and Gaza Strip and required to report daily to police for two weeks after the end of their house arrest.

Mr. Skornik's lawyer Yaacov Weinroth said his client was also barred from discussing the investigation.

Police said on Nov. 9 they had arrested Mr. Skornik. They announced the detention of Mr. Epstein a day later. Both men, like Mr. Amir, are religious Jews.

Unrepentant, Mr. Amir told a Tel Aviv court at a hearing on Monday that all of Israel supported the killing. He said he killed Mr. Rabin

to prevent Israel from handing territory back to Palestinians under a peace deal.

"Perhaps physically I acted alone, but it was not only my finger that pulled the trigger but the entire nation which for 2,000 years dreamed about this country and spilled its blood for it," Mr. Amir told the court which ordered him held until Nov. 30 to allow police to prepare an indictment.

An Israeli state commission investigating the assassination was due to hold its last session of the week on Tuesday.

Settlers who took over mosque freed

In another development Tuesday, the Israeli army expelled a group of settlers squatting in a mosque close to the West Bank town of Hebron after complaints from Palestinians, military officials said.

The move came after a complaint from a Palestinian police commander in the region, General Hadji Ismail Jaber.

Seminar participants find need for constitutional court

By Sa'eda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan is in dire need of the establishment of a higher constitutional court that determines the constitutionality of laws and interprets legislative, executive and judicial powers, experts and politicians agreed Monday.

At the end of a three-day conference entitled Democracy — the Rule of Law, experts echoed the importance of a constitutional court for the protection and enhancement of democracy. Although they differed over whether an amendment to constitution was necessary for the achievement of such an objective, they said the democratic process could not be consolidated without the existence of such a court.

"The Lower House of Parliament could not be considered as a sufficient protector of democracy nor could the judiciary authority alone play this role," said lawyer and human rights activist Asma Khader at the conference organised by Al Urdun Al Jadid Research Centre in cooperation with Konrad Adenauer Foundation. "Parliament, for instance, does not have the right to liquidate opposition leaders and say it is constitutional afterwards."

"A host of decisions are taken in the country that do not pass through courts. We have many exceptions," to the law, she charged.

Adel Sharif, a counsellor at the Higher Constitutional Court in Egypt stressed the importance of the establishment of such court for the "protection of human rights

and public freedoms" and cited examples from the Egyptian experience. One of the examples was the dissolution of the Egyptian Bar Association, the strongest association in Egypt in the domain of defending human rights. The constitutional court ruled that dissolution by the government was unconstitutional, he said.

"The constitutional judiciary monitoring is needed for the preservation of the rule of law," Dr. Sharif stressed.

Although lecturers showed paramount enthusiasm throughout the three-day seminar for the establishment of a constitutional court in Jordan, some participants backed off when the representative of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Hubert Dobers, called for action.

"Is it a meeting for talk only? I am not calling for a revolution but did you or are any of you willing to form lobbying groups?" he asked. "There is openness but there should be some pushing. Most of those who attended the seminar are from the opposition, doesn't this (specialised seminar) interest the majority?"

The German foundation organised a similar seminar two years ago based on the same concept and with the same objectives. While participants and lecturers expressed more zeal and determination vis-a-vis the establishment of a constitutional court in this year's seminar, Mr. Dobers stressed that they should make a stronger move and eliminate taboos that ex-

ist in their minds especially concerning the amendment of the constitution.

"In some universities it is not allowed to talk about the constitution. They talk about Israeli, German, French constitutions, but the Jordanian one is a taboo," he said.

Professor of political science at the University of Yarmouk, Amin Mashqabeh was quick to cite what he termed as special circumstances and the transitional phase that prevent Jordan from progress in the judiciary domain.

"The Jordanian Constitution is being studied in all universities. It is not a taboo," Dr. Mashqabeh said. "We don't say we are a democratic country and we cannot compare ourselves to Germany. We need a long time before we make any progress in the judiciary field."

Deputy Abdul Hafez Shakhaneh said: "The priority of Parliament is to preserve the Constitution and not to change it. I don't consider the Constitution sacred, but is this the time to amend it?"

Islamist Deputy Mohammad Oweidah also insisted that the Constitution was not considered sacred for Jordanians but he pointed out that there was a reversal on the democratic process.

"When the issue of amending the Constitution was brought up in Parliament, hell broke loose," Dr. Oweidah said. "The establishment of a constitutional court is a must. We are in a dire need for it."



Thousands of Egyptians march behind fire engines carrying the coffins of Pakistan's Egyptian-embassy bomb attack victims Tuesday (Reuters photo)

Egypt holds state funeral for blast victims Suspected embassy bombers vow to assassinate Mubarak

CAIRO (Agencies) — As Egypt buried its dead from the attack on its embassy in Pakistan, an Islamic group suspected in the bombing vowed on Tuesday to murder President Hosni Mubarak and three senior ministers.

In a two-page typed statement faxed to an international news agency, the International Justice Group (IJG) condemned "the pharaohs of Egypt" — Mr. Mubarak, Interior Minister Hassan Al Alfi, Foreign Minister Amr Musa and Information Minister Safwat Al Sharif.

It said "death sentences have been passed against them, even if they hang from the curtains of the Kaaba," Islam's holiest shrine in Mecca, for protection.

Egypt has focused on the IJG as the most likely culprit of three groups which claimed Sunday's suicide bombing of Egypt's embassy in Islamabad, which killed 16 and injured more than 60.

The Egyptian government has sent experts to Pakistan to help in the investigations and has vowed to track down exiled Muslim militants.

The IJG, which also claimed the murder of an Egyptian diplomat in Geneva last week, dismissed the threat and vowed to take its campaign against Egyptian missions abroad, onto Egyptian soil.

"We accept the challenge," it said. "Don't worry, we will shorten the way for you. We will ease the burden of travelling for you because you are too cowardly to do it. We will come to you, God willing."

"There is no punishment

for you other than cutting apart your bodies into shreds. We will punish you no matter how long it takes," the group said.

The Jamaa Islamiyya and Al Jihad, which have spearheaded militant violence in Egypt, also claimed the attack.

Al Hayat cited Egyptian security sources saying the IJG was most likely made up of "extremist leaders abroad who agreed to commit attacks to frighten countries from handing over militants on their soil to Egypt."

The sources said Egyptian security had received "information about meetings in European capitals" by the militant chiefs, who agreed to attack "Egyptian diplomats and embassies" to stop extraditions.

Militants already suspect Croatia has secretly extradited to Egypt Jamaa "spokesman" Talaat Fuad Qassem, arrested in Zagreb in September. Cairo has remained silent on the affair.

In its fax claiming the embassy attack, the IJG demanded the release of Qassem and of Jamaa's spiritual leader Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman, currently imprisoned in the U.S.

Since the failed attempt in June by Jamaa to assassinate Mr. Mubarak in Addis Ababa, Egypt has stepped up its contacts with other nations to take back fugitive militant leaders.

Egypt's Foreign Minister Amr Musa said Monday: "Harbouring terrorists and their leaders is a problem which must be put to an end. Egypt has increased its con-

tacts to do so."

It already holds extradition agreements with Pakistan and most Arab countries, including Sudan, which Cairo accuses of harbouring Islamic militants, and other accords are being sought with Turkey and Ethiopia, police officials said.

Mr. Mubarak has criticised Britain, Germany and other countries which offer asylum to fundamentalists. "They will pay a heavy price, one day," he told the French daily Le Monde last week.

Meanwhile, several thousand mourners turned out for the military funeral of five Egyptians killed in the bombing of Egypt's embassy in Pakistan at the Armed Forces mosque in Cairo on Tuesday.

Prime Minister Atef Sedqi led a large ministerial delegation to the funeral, including Mr. Musa and Mr. Alfi, who marched behind huge bouquets of flowers in a procession to the burial site.

Amid heavy military and police security, black-veiled women waited as demonstrators nearby marched with banners, chanting, "Down with terrorism" and "the blood of martyrs will burn the terrorists."

The funeral was begun by a special noon prayer at the mosque, led by Egypt's mufti Mohammed Sayed Tantawi. Mr. Musa, Mr. Alfi and fathers and brothers of the victims in the first row of worshippers.

They were joined by the ambassadors of several Arab and Islamic nations, including the Algerian ambassador to Cairo, along with a large number of Egyptian par-

liamentary and government officials.

The five coffins, blanketed with Egyptian flags and flowers, then set out for their final resting place in a procession carried live on state television.

In Islamabad, more than 20 Egyptians have been questioned by Pakistani authorities in the investigation into the massive car bombing at the Egyptian embassy, sources and reports said Tuesday.

The 20 were either residing in Pakistan or were temporarily in the country to attend religious conventions, they said, adding some had been prevented from leaving the country following Sunday's blasts.

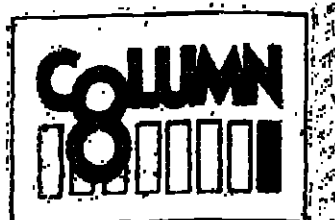
The outcome of the interrogations was not known and no arrests were immediately reported, while officials said those cleared in the screening would be released.

Some eight Egyptians were stopped at the Karachi airport and another nine at Lahore on Monday.

The official Associated Press of Pakistan news agency said two Egyptians and a Jordanian student at Islamabad's International Islamic University, a suspected focal point for fundamentalists, had been released after interrogation.

At the same time, security men from the U.S. embassy joined Pakistani and Egyptian experts in a search for evidence at the bombed Egyptian embassy in Islamabad on Tuesday.

A Pakistani official said the Americans were inspecting the wrecked mission.



Streisand to produce film about Rabin, Arafat

LOS ANGELES (R) — Barbra Streisand is making a film about slain Israeli leader Yitzhak Rabin and PLO chief Yasser Arafat to run on the showtime cable station next year, the star's publicist said Monday. The film, Two Hands That Shook The World, will be produced by Streisand's Barwood Films and Jazbo Productions, the Guttman Associates public relations firm said in a release. It will chronicle the last 50 years of Middle East history and efforts toward peace as told through the lives of Rabin and Arafat. Both Rabin and Arafat had agreed to serve as consultants to the film, and producers said they had been assured this collaboration would still be provided by Arafat and the Rabin family. The screenplay is being written by two-time Academy Award winner Edward Anhalt, and Barbra Streisand will be executive producer. Streisand, who has been a star singer and actress since the 1960s, broadened her career when in 1983 she directed and co-produced the film Yentl. In the film she played a Jewish woman in a turn-of-the-century European village who longs to study the Talmud and so disguises herself as a boy. Traditionally, Talmud study by women was not welcomed. She also directed herself in the widely acclaimed film Prince Of Tides, which received several Oscar nominations.

Nureyev's clothes, Paris furnishings auctioned

LONDON (AP) — Fans and collectors snapped up costumes and clothing that belonged to Rudolf Nureyev at Monday's auction of the ballet star's belongings. Bidding was intense at Christie's auction rooms as the late dancer's admirers from around the world bought textiles, theatrical robes, shawls, dresses, kimonos and waistcoats. After the first session on a two-day sale the contents of Nureyev's main Paris home, the sale's running total was more than twice that expected. Nearly 150 items of clothing plus a few pieces of ephemera, fetched £194,500 (\$301,000), against an expected £80,000 (\$124,000). A James Wyeth pencil sketch of Nureyev fetched £4,830 (\$7,500). Tuesday's session is to sell paintings, musical instruments, sculptures, carpets and furniture. These belongings filled Nureyev's Paris apartment at 23 Quai Voltaire, overlooking the Seine. The contents of his New York apartment sold for £5 million (\$7.9 million) at Christie's in New York in January. Nureyev, who died of an AIDS-related illness in 1993 at age 54, was considered by many to be the most brilliant male dancer of the century.

Brazilian painting sets record of \$1.4 m.

NEW YORK (R) — A painting that inspired a cultural rebellion in Brazil set a record for artist Tarsila Do Amaral at Christie's auction of Latin art in which more than half of the works were not bought. The 1928 painting of a misproportioned, rounded and naked asexual figure sold for \$1.4 million, the highest price for any Brazilian painting. It had been a birthday present to her husband, writer Oswald De Andrade, who used it in his manifesto against colonial influence on Brazilian culture. The painting became a symbol of that movement.

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HOLE APP
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